

This is so that in many and diuerse places the comyn cronicle
 of england ben had and also now late enprinted at Westmynstere
 And for as moche as the description of this londe which of olde
 tyme was named albyon and afar Britayne is not descriued
 ne comynly had ne the noblesse and worthynesse of the same is
 not knowen. Therfor I entende to sette in this booke the descripcion
 of this said Isle of Britayne With the commodities of the same

In the first shall be told the names of the Ilande	Ca. i.
Of the setting boundyng lengthe & brede	Ca. ii.
Of the Worthynes & prerogatyues	Ca. iii.
Of the meruailles and Wondres	Ca. iij.
Of the chief parties of the londe	Ca. v.
Of the Ilandes therto adiacent	Ca. vi.
Of the kyngis hys Wayes & stretes	Ca. vii.
Of famous riuers & strems	Ca. viii.
Of auncient cities & towncs	Ca. ix.
Of prouynces & shyres	Ca. x.
Of the lawes & names of lawes	Ca. xi.
Of kyngdomes of boundes & merkis bitwene them	Ca. xii.
Of bissshopriche and their sees	Ca. xiii.
Of how many maner peple haue duelled therein	Ca. xiiii.
Of the langages of maners &UAGE of the peple of y londe	Ca. xv.
Of the londe of Walys	Ca. xvi.
Of the name Why it is named Walys	Ca. xvii.
Of the comodities of the londe of Walys	Ca. xviii.
Of the maners & rites of the Walsshmen	Ca. xix.
Of the meruailles & Wondres of Walys	Ca. xx.
Of the descripcion of Scotland	Ca. xxi.
Of the descripcion of Irelande	Ca. xxii.
Of the boundyng of Irelande	Ca. xxiii.
Of the gretnes & qualite of that londe	Ca. xxiiii.
Of the defautes of the londe	Ca. xxv.
Of them that first inhabited Irelande	Ca. xxvi.
Of the condicions & maners of Irishmen	Ca. xxvii.
Of the meruailles & Wondres of Irelande	Ca. xxviii.
Of the meruailles of seintes of Irelande	Ca. xxix.

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In the first shall be told the names of the Ilande	Ca. j.
Of the setting boundyng lengthe & bryde	Ca. ij.
Of the Worthynes & prerogatyues	Ca. iij.
Of the meruailles and Wondres	Ca. iij.
Of the chief parties of the londe	Ca. v.
Of the Ilandes therto adiacent	Ca. vi.
Of the kyngis hys Wayes & stretes	Ca. viij.
Of famous riuers & strems	Ca. viij.
Of aunient citis & towncs	Ca. ix.
Of prouynces & shyres	Ca. x.
Of the lawes & names of lawes	Ca. xi.
Of kyngdomes of boundes & merkis bitwene them	Ca. xij.
Of bissshopriche and their sees	Ca. xij.
Of how many maner peple haue duelled therein	Ca. xiiij.
Of the langages of maners &UAGE of the peple of y londe	Ca. xv.
Of the londe of Walys	Ca. xv.
Of the name Why it is named Walys	Ca. xvij.
Of the comodities of the londe of Walys	Ca. xvij.
Of the maners & rites of the Walssmen	Ca. xvij.
Of the meruailles & Wondres of Walys	Ca. xvij.
Of the descripcion of Scotland	Ca. xvij.
Of the descripcion of Irelande	Ca. xvij.
Of the boundyng of Irelande	Ca. xvij.
Of the gretnes & qualite of that londe	Ca. xvij.
Of the defautes of the londe	Ca. xvij.
Of them that first inhabited Irelande	Ca. xvij.
Of the condicions & maners of Irishmen	Ca. xvij.
Of the meruailles & Wondres of Irelande	Ca. xvij.
Of the meruailles of seintes of Irelande	Ca. xvij.

Of the names of this land

Capitulum. j.

Althow as Galfride saith this lande was named Albion after the name of Albine the oldest daughter of Dioclesian, and had xxij. sisters, And they were first that inhabited this lande, And because she was the oldest sister she named this lande Albion after her owne name as the cronicle witnesseth, Other saye that this land was named Albion as it were the white lande of white rockes about the clynnes of the see that were seyne fro ferre. Afterward Brutus conquered this lande and callid it Brytany after his owne name. Thenne Saxons or englyssmen conquered this land and callid it Anglia that is Englonde, Or it is callid Anglia of a quene that owed this lande that was named Angela and was a noble dukes daughter of the Saxons, Or as ysidre seyth ch. v. Anglia hath that name as it were an angle and a corner of the world Or els as Beda saith li. j. Seynt Gregorie saith englyss children to selle at Rome and he accorded to the name of the lande, and sayde they her, sothly anglis, for the face shyned as angels, for the nobles of the lande shone in the childrens faces, Alfre. The Brittyss anglia is cleped the other world, and for grete plenty of all good the grete Charles called it his owne chambre, Solin. The edge of the frensch clif shold be the ende of the world, yf the plonde of Britany ne were not, which is worthy to haue the name of an other world, Alfre. This lande is callid insula for it is in lase, that is the see, and is leryn of with diuerse cours of waters with streames and with wades of the see.

Of the setting boundyng lengthe & bryde of this lande Ca. ii
This britany is accounted a noble lande both in our stories and also in the stories of grekes and is sette agens Germany. Gallia. Fraunce & spayne bitwene the north and the west and the see bitwene, This lande is ffty myle from the clif of the may that he called morini gessorico Beda li. j. And for this lande lyeth vnder the north side of the world, hit hath lyght and bright nyghtes in the somer tyme, So that oft tyme at mydnyght men haue questions and doubt wether it be euyn tye or dawnyng, that is for the tyme of the yere that the sonne goth not fer vnder the erthe by nyght, but passeth by the north syde and cometh sone in to the este agayn, And therfore in the somer ten ther dayes ful longe of vij. houres, And the nyghtes of vij. houres And after in the wynter ten longe nyghtes of vij. houres, and

Short dayes of vii. houres Also in armenia macedonia Italia and
 in other londes of the same lyne the lengest day and lengest nyght
 also is of xv. houres and the shortest day or nyght is of ix. houres
 Cap. in meroe that londe is chief of blacke me, ther is the lengest
 day vii. houres, In alexandria in egipt of viii. houres, In Italia
 of xv. houres, In Britayne of xvii. houres, In the londe na-
 mede Tylen alle the vii. somer monethes is day, and alle the fyve
 wynter monethes is nyght, Psal. li. viii. Britayne is sette within
 Ocean as it were withoute the world, and is sette ayenst fraun-
 ce and spayne, Giraldus Britayne is endlong and larger in the
 myddel than in the ends, Ow. Britayne stretcheth in lengthe out
 of the south in to the north, and in the southeast side hit hath fraunce
 in the south spayne, In the north norwey, and in the West hiber-
 nia that is Irelande, Whan shipmen passen the next clyf of that lon-
 de they see a cite that heet rutpi mouth, Beda li. j. That cite is now
 called shortly of englyssmen Reptacestre, Solinus, Britayne is
 viii. C. myle of lengthe, and it be moten from the clyf of Totenesse
 to the angle of Calidon, Alfre. That is from pen Withstrete xv. my-
 le beyonde michels stowe in cornewaile, unto Cateneffe that is be-
 yonde scotland, and Britayne is more than ii. C. myle brode fro
 meuenia that is the uttermost place in Wales unto yarmouth in
 norffolke, Beda Only outtake the lengest out steking of diuerse
 forlondes with the which Britayne is all aboute xl viii. fithen
 thousand paces

Of the Worthynes and prerogatiues ————— Ca. iij

AS fraunce passeth Britayne so Britayne passeth Irelande
 in feyr weder and noblete, but not in helthe, Beda li. j.
 For this londe is beste to bringe forth trees and fruyt,
 Rether and bestis, And wyne groweth therein in somme place
 The londe hath plente of fowles and of bestis of diuerse maner
 kynde, The londe is plenteuous & the see also, The londe is noble
 copious and riche of noble wyllies and ryuers wyth plente of
 fische, Ther is grete plente of small fische of samon and of eekes,
 Wilhel. de po. li. iij. So that the peple in somme place feedeth their
 wyne with fische, Beda libro primo, There ben oftymes taken
 Dolphynes, See calues and balaynes grete fisches as whaltes
 kynde, and diuerse maner shelfische, amonge which shelfische
 ben muskles that within hem haue Margeri perles of all maner

of colour and be of redde and rede purpure and of blew and
specially and most of Whyte There is also plente of stallysshe
that may open ther With syn wede the rednes ther of is wonder
fayre and stable, and stepneth neuer With colde ne With heate
With weete ne With drye, But ever the older the colour is the fay-
rer, Ther ben also salt Welles and hote Welles, ther of wemen se-
mes of hote bathes departed in to diuerse places accordyng, for
man and Woman of all maner age olde or yonge, Basilius seith
that the Water that renneth and passeth by Raynes of certayn me-
talle taketh in his cours grete heat, This Ilande is plenteuous of
Raynes of metals, bras of yron, of lode, of tyn, and of siluer also.
Claus libro vij. ca. vij. In this Ilande Under the turf of the londe
is good mark founden, the thyfste of the fatnes dryeth hym selfe
therin, So that euer the thikker the felde is marked, the better
com it Wolk here, There is also another maner Whyte mark, that
the londe is better foure score yere that ther With is marked
Solinus In this Ilande groweth a stone that is callid gagates
yf ye Wyll knowe his fayrnesse, it is black as gemmes ben, Yf
ye Wyll knowe his kynde, hit brenneth in Water and quencheth
in oyle and as to his myght, yf the stone be frosted and chauffed
hit holdeth what hym neygeth as succans a stone that is so na-
med, Psidorus libro deimoquinto. Ther ben shep that beyn good
Wulle, There ben many herdes and Wylde bestes and felde Wol-
ues, therfore shep ben the surer Without keepyng, lest in the felde
R, In this Ilande also ben many aires and towncs faire and
noble and rich, many grete riuers and streemes With grete plenty
te of fyssh, many fayre Woodes and grete, With right many be-
stes tame and wilde, The erthe of that londe is copious of me-
talle oore, and of salt Welles, of quareyes of marble of diuerse ma-
ner stones, of wede of Whyte of softe and of hard, of chaulke and
of Whyte lyme, Ther is also Whyte clay and wey for to make
pottes, crokkes, stenes, and othir vessel and brente tylle to couere
With houses and churches, as it were in the othir samia, that is
named samos also, Flaunders loueth Well the Wulle of this londe,
And holand the skynnes and felles of alle maner of bestes,
Gypan the yron and the lode, Irlonde the oore and the salt,
Alle Europa loueth and desireth the Whyte metall of this londe,
Alfredus Britayne hath ynow of mater that ther nedeth to bye
and selle, or is needfull to mannes vse, ther lacketh nethir salt
ne yron, Therfore a versifiour in his metre prayseth this londe in

This maner England is a good londe fruytfull of Wolle, but it is
 a corner, England is full of playe fre men, Well worthy to playe,
 fre men, fre tonges, fre hertes, and fre ben all their thinges, the
 honde is more fre and better than their tonge, Also england is be-
 autifull of londe, flour of londes all aboute that londe is ful paid
 With fruyt & good of his owne, that londe releueth straunge men
 that hath neede thereto. And whan longer greueth othir londes that
 londe feedeth hem, That londe berith fruyt & corne good ynough That
 londe is Well at ease, as longe as men lyue in pces, Est & West in
 eche londe, ben kno wen Well the haucnes of england, her shippes
 foundes & ofte helpe many londes, their mede & money, men haue
 ther more comyn alway, And for to serue men gladly yue yestes
 In londe & stonde, Wyde speke men of england, londe hony mylke
 chese this I londe therof shall bere the prise, This I londe hath no ne-
 de to othir londes, alle londes muste seeke helpe at this allone, Of
 the lpyng of their woun, myght wonder kyng salomon, the ry-
 chesse that ther is an, Wolde desire Octavian

Of the meruailles & Wondres Ca. iiii.

In Britayne ben hoot Welles, Well arrayed & a dressyd to
 the vse of makynge, maistresse of thilke Welles is the gre-
 te spirite of minerua, In her hous the fyre endureth al-
 way that neuer chaungeth in to ashes, but there the fyre slaketh,
 hit chaungeth in to stone clottes, Alfre. In Britayne ben many
 Wondres nethelles four ben most Wonderfull, The first is at pecton
 ther bloweth so stronge Wynde out of the chynes of the erthe, that
 it casteth vp agayne clottes that men caste in, The seconde is at ston-
 henge besides salesbury, ther ben grete stoncs & wonder huge & ben
 wred, an hegh as it were pates, so that ther fomen pates sette vp
 on othir pates, Nethelles it is not kno wen clerly ne aperceyued
 how & wherfor they ben so awred, and so Wonderfully songed, The
 thirde is at cherdholke, there is a grete holdnes vnder erthe, ofte
 many men haue Walked therein & haue seen riuers & stremes, but
 no wher can they fynde none ende, The fourthe is that rayne is seen
 ryped vpon hilles & anone yspronge aboute in the feldes, Also
 ther is a grete ponde that conteyneth lx. londes couenable for men
 to duelle in, that ponde is bickipped aboute With vij. score rockes,
 and vpon euery rocke an egles nest, And lx. Fyuers rennen in to
 that ponde, & none of hem all renne in to the see but one, Ther is a

poude closed aboute With a Wal of tyll and of stone. In that pon-
de men Wassh and bathe Well ofte. And euery man felth the Wa-
ter hoot or colde right as he Wyll hym selfe. Ther ben salt Welles
fer from the see and ben salt al the Welke longe Into saturday none
and fresh fro saturday none Into monday. The Water of these
Welles whan it is soden turneth in to small salt faye and whyte.
Also ther is a poude the Water therof hath wonder wirchynge for
though all an host stode by the poude and turned their face thid-
derward the Water wold draue hym violently toward the poude
and wete all their clothes so shold horse be drawen in the same Wy-
se. And yf the face be turned away fro the Water the Water noyth
not. There is a Welle that no streame runneth fro nethir therto and
yet foure maner fisses be taken there. That Welle is but xx. fote
longe and xx. fote brode and not depe but to the line and cheseth
With hygh bankes on euery side. In the contrey aboute Wynche-
stre is a denne or a caue oute of that caue sheweth alway a strong
ge Wynde so that noman may endure to stonde tofore that dene or
caue. There is also a poude that turneth tre in to yron yf it be ther
in a yere. And so trees ben shapen in to whestones. Also ther is in
the wyke of an hylle a buriele euery man that cometh and meteth
that buryel he shall fynde it euen of his owne lengthe and mesure.
And yf a pilgrym knele therto anone he shall be alle fresh and
felte no grief of Werynes. Six. in tow. Just by the mynster of Wyn-
burney that is not fer fro bathe is a Wode that leueth moche fruyt
yf the trees of that Wode falle in to Water or grounde that is neygh
and by there all a yere that tre turnen in to stones. Six. in itinere
Under the cite of chester runneth that riuer dee that now departeth
Englond and Wales. That riuer chaunged euery moneth his
forde as may of the contrey tellyn and leueth ofte the chanel. But
Whether the Water draue more toward Englond or toward Wales
to what side that it be that yere men of that side haue the Werse ende
and be ouerset. And men of that othir side shall haue lither ende
and ben at their aboue. Whan the Water so chaungith his cours
hit doth such happe. This riuer dee runneth and cometh oute of
a lake that het pybblemew. In this riuer is grete plenty of sa-
mon. netholes in the lake is near samon founden. Wilhel. de w. li. ii.
Take hede how grete light & brightnes of goddes myldenes hath
he shewd vpon Englyssmen. Alth they turned first to right helue.
So that of no man in one prouynce ben founden so many hole to
dies of men after her deith in lyfnes of euerlastyngnes that shall

be after the day of dome, as it Well semeth in these holy seintes,
 Ecolorede Edmonde, the kyng Elphege, Edgar Cutberd & seint
 Edward & many othir, I trowe that it be do by speciall grace of
 god Almyghty for the nacion that is sette as it Were Without the
 world, shold take hede to buryng of bodys Without corruption
 and rotting, and ben the more bolde and stedfast for to truste on
 the fynall arysing of dede bodys for to laste evermore after the
 day of dome

Of the chief parties of the londe Ca. 8

After the first Brutes tyme the londe of Britayne begā
 for to haue the principall parties that ben begria cambria
 that is Wales, And Albania that is now scotland, Ro-
 gria had that name of loxmus that was Brutes oldest sone, and
 heet begria as it Were loxmus londe, but now begria is called en-
 glonde, The boundes & merkes Were therof somtyme the frenssh see
 bothe by east & by south, W:da li. j. ca. ij. And by north two armes
 of the see that breketh fer in to the londe eyther ayenst othir, But
 they reche not to gyddres, the east arme of thylke t Weyne beginneth
 aboute a two li x l myle fro the mynstre of Ebburaring, In the
 West side of penulton in that arme is a tounce that is called Gyn-
 dy, The West arme of thylke t Weyne hath in the right side a strong
 cite that heet Alclud, Which in her langage is called Elr tstone
 and standeth vpon a riuer that is called Elynt also, R, Somme
 men wolde mene that begria endeth at humbre, and stretcheth no
 further northward, The seconde partie of Britayne is called Al-
 bania that is scotland, and hath that name of Albanactus Bru-
 tes sone and stretcheth fro the forsaide two armes of the see north
 ward vnto the see of Norwage, Netheles the south parties of Al-
 bania Where as pikes duelled somtyme, lieth from the Water of
 Tweede vnto the scottish see, All that longed somtyme to the kyng-
 dome of Northumberland breuicorn the northside of Northumber-
 lond fro the first tyme of engliss kynges, to that tyme When kys
 nadius kyng of scotland that was Alpinus sone dyde away the
 pikes, and so joyned that contrey to the kyngdome of scotland,
 The thirde partie of batayne is Wales Wallia that heet Cambria
 also, and had that name Cambria of Cambr Brutes sone, for
 he was prync of Wales, In the east side Seuarth departed somtyme
 hit Were englond and Wales, But now in the northside the ri-

uer bee at Chester and in the south the riuer that is namede Tago
at the Castell of Serigelin departeth englonde & Wales. Also kynge
Offa for to haue a distinction for euermore bitwene the kynges of
englonde and of Wales made a longe dyche that stretcheth forth
oute of the southside by Wrotham Under the hilles of Wales north
ward and passeth the riueres Sauary and de almost to the see
des & into the mouth of the riuer de beyonde Chester fast by the
castell it renneth bitwene colshill and the mynstre of Basingwerk
in to the see. This dyche is yet in many places seen. In seint Ed-
wardes tyme Walsshmen shold not passe that dyche with wepen
vpon a grette payne. And that was at erle harolds procuring as
it shall be said here after. But now in eyther sides bothe ayond
half and a this half the dyche and specially in the shires of Che-
ster of Shrovsbury and of herford in many places ben Engli-
sh men and Walsshmen medlyd to gyders

Of the Ilandes thereto adiacent
Capitulum sexu.

Brytayne hath thre Ilandes that ben nygh and longen
thereto all without the Ilandes ozades as it were ansues-
ring to the thre chief parties of Britayne. For the Isle of
Wyght longeth and lieth to becria that is englonde. The Ilande
Mon that is called Anglesya also longeth to Wales & the Ilande
Eubonia that hath two othir names & is called Menaua & ma al-
so. Whiche longeth to scotlande. And all these thre Ilandes Wyght
Mon and Man ben almost pliche moche and of the like quantite
of the which thre all are we now foloweth oure speche. Beda li. i.
ca. iij. Claudius sente Vaspasian and Vaspasianus Wan Wyght
and Wyght stretcheth oute of the east in to the west xxx. myle lon-
ge. And oute of the south in to the north xij. myle and is in the
east side six myle fro the south clyf of Britayne and thre myle in
the west side. Beda li. iij. ca. v. The mesure of this Ilande as En-
glisshmen gesse is a M. housholdes and two hondred. Sir. in itine-
re. Mon that is called Anglesya also is departed from north Wa-
les by a short arme of the see as it were ij. myle brode. In mon ben
iij. C. townes lxij. & ben acopred for carredes þ ben in. hondredes
the Ilande is as it were xxx. myle longe & vij. myle brode. Candre-
dus is so moch longe as cōtyneth an C. townes þ nam: canderd
is made out of two langages of Brittiish & of Iassh in prayfinge

of this Ilande Walffhmen he Wonde to saye a prouerbe and an olde
saue mon mam kembry, that is to saye in englyssh, that Ilande is so
good that it semeth that it wolde fynde corn ynow for all the men
of Wales Therfor Virgyle uses may be acordyng thereto, as moch
as guawes, besets longe jnneth dawes, So moch este, byngeth
cold de we in a nyght, In that arme of the see that departeth this
Ilande and north Wales, is a Wolow that draweth shippes to it that
sayllet by and, Woloweth hem in, right as doth Cilla and Carib
dis that ben two perilous places in the see of myddell ertle, Ther
few men may not saille by this Wolow, but slyly atte full see R,
Of the meruayles and woundres of the Iland Mon thou shalt
fynde tofore in the chapitre of Wales, Sir. in itinere, The third Ila
de that is called both Eubonia and Menauia that is man ston,
deth in the myddell hit were the Irish Bister and the scottys gal
le waye, as it were in the nauel of the see, Beda li. ij. ca. ix. This
Ilande man contyneth as it were two Ilandes, The first is south
Ward, the more contrey and the better corn Ilande, and contyneth
ix. c. and lx. householdes. The seconde contyneth the space of CCC.
and moo as englysshmen gesse, Sir. in top. Somtyme Was strepe
Whether this Ilande Man sholde longe to Brytayne or to Irlonde
And for as moch as venemous Wormes that were brought the
der kyued there, It was jugged that the Ilande Man sholde longe
to Brytayne R, In that Ilande is sortilege and witchcraft Bled
For Women there selle to shippmen Wynde as it were closed, Under
thre knottes of threde, so that the more Wynde he Wolk haue, the mo
knottes he muste Undo, Ther ofte by day tyme men of that Ilande
seen men that ben dead tofore hand beheaded, or hooke and, What deth
they deye Allens sette their feet Upon feet of the men of that Ilande
for to see suche sightes as the men of that Iland doon, Beda li. ij.
Scottes duelled first in this Iland, Chanatws that is Tenet and
is an Ilande besides Kent, and hath that name Chanatws of deth
of serpentes, for there ben none, And the ertle therof sleeth serpen
tes yborn in to othir Ilandes, There is noble corne Ilande and frugt
full, Hit is supposed that this Ilande Was hallowyd and blessed
of seynt Austyn the first doctour of englysshmen for there he ary
ued first

Of the kyngis hye Wayes and stretes.
Capitulum septimo.

Molunius kyng of Britons Was the xxij. of hem and
the first that gaf hem lawe, he ordeyned that p^{ro}men so
sholdes, goddes temple and kyngs Weyes that leden men
to cities and townes, shold haue the freedom of socour, so that euery
man that went to ony of the for socour or for trespass that he had
do, shold be sauf for poursute of all his enemyes, But after Ward
for the Weyes Were vncertaine & strif Was had, Therfor Molunius
the kyng that Was the forsaide Molunius sone for to put a way
all doubte and strif, made foure hygh kynges Weyes priueleged
With all priuelege and fredome, And the Weyes stretch thurgh
the ylande, The first & grette of the foure Weyes is called fosse, &
stretcheth oute of the south in to the north, and begynneth from the
corner of cornewaile & passeth forth by deuenshyre by somerset &
forth beside Tetbury vpon Cotswold beside couentre vnto Ley
cester & so forth by Wylder pleynes to Ward ne Werke & ended at lin
coln, The seconde chief kynges hygh Waye is named Watlingstre
te & stretcheth thwert ouer fosse oute of the south west in to the north
west, & begynneth at douer & passeth by the myddell of Kent ouer
temse beside london by West Westmestere & so forth by saint Albion in
the West side by donstaple by stratford by to Watte by Bedon by
south lylleborn, by atterston vnto Silbertes hille that now is cal
led Werke & forth by seuar & passeth beside Wrochestre & then
forth to statton & so forth by the myddell of Wales vnto Cardy
kan and endeth at the Iustice see, The thirde Way is called Erynnu
gestrete and stretcheth oute of the West nor West in to east south east
and begynneth in menauia that is in saint dauides londe in Weste
Wales and stretcheth forth vnto southampton, The fourthe is cal
led Rykenyldestrete & stretcheth forth by Worchestre by Wycombe
by byrmynggham by lichefeld by derby by chesterfeld by york &
forth vnto synmouth

Of famous Ryuers and streames ————— Ca. viij

Thre famous riuers rennen thurgh Britayn by the which
thre Ryuers marchaunts of beyonde the see comen in ship
pes in to Britayne Well neth oute of alle maner of na
cions and londes, These thre Ryuers ben Temse, Seuar and hu
bre, The see ebbleth and floweth att the mouthes of these thre Ryuers
and departeth the thre prouynces of the ylande as it Were the thre
kyngdomes asondre, The thre parties ben, brigia, Cambria and

in England
Elizabeth

The kyngdome of Britayne Was somtyme made fair With
pydyn. noble citres Without right many castels þ̄ Were
Walled With toures With gates & With barres strongly
suplyed, &c. These Were the names of the citres, wrruld that is

London, Caerbuanc that is yorke, Caerhente that is Caunterbu-
ry, Caerboraugon that is Wircestre, Caerliron that is leycestre,
Caerclon that is Gloucetre, Caercoldey that is Colcestre, Caerri
that is Chichestre, So yone called it somtyme Cissonaestre, Caer-
ri that is Ercestre, Caerluent that is Wynecestre, Caergraunte,
that is Cambriggge, Caerlepyll that is Lughbala and Karlyll,
Caerpeas that is porcestre, Caerdrum that is dorcestre Caerlud-
wyt that is lincoln and lincolyn Caermerthyn that is merlins ci-
te, Caersegent that is sieste and is ypon Temse not fer from Re-
dyng, Caerthleon that is Caerlegion also and hight first leges-
stre and now is named Cestre Caerbathon that is Bathe and
hight somtyme Athamannus Cyt, Caerpaladour that is sep-
ton that now hight Shafesbury. Other citres ben founden in
cronykis for vnderstandyng of storyes, of Whom it shall folow,
Wilhel. de po. London is a riall and a riche Cite ypon Tamysse,
of burgeysses of richesses of marchaunts of chaffare and of mar-
chandysse, Therefore it is that somtyme Whan dert of vitails is in
all Englonde commuly at London it is best chepe because of the by-
ars and sellars that ben at London, Gaufre. But the first kyng
of Batons bylded and edified this Cyt of London the first ci-
te of Batayne in remembraunce of the Cyt of Troye that was
destroied and called it Troiene Weth and trinouantum that is
new Troye, Afterward kyng ludy called it Caerludy after his
owne name, therfor Batons hadde grete indignacion as Gildas
tellet. Afterward Englissmen called the Cyt London, and yet
after that Normans called it loundres, and is named in latyn
londonia, Rudhudibras kyng byles sone was the viij. kyng of
Batons, he bylded Caunterbury the chief Cite of hente and cal-
led it Caerhente, Afterward englissmen called it dorobernia,
but that is not douer that seondeth ypon þe cluf of the farnesse les
And is from this douer viij. Engliss myle, Afterward this dor-
obernia was and is called Caunterbury, The same kyng Rud-
hudibras bylded Wynecestre and called it Caerluent, And
after Englissmen call it Wente and Wynecestre after the na-
me of one Wync an Englissman that was bisschop there, a l wese
saxon was subgette to hym, the same kyng bylded paladour that
is Sepdon, that now is called Shafesbury, Batons tellet that
an Egle propheied there somtyme, Bladud byles sone a nigro-
maner was the ix. kyng of Batons, he bylded Bathe and called
it Caerbathon, Englissmen called it after Athamannes cite, but

at the last men called it bathonia that is bathe, *Willel. de pon. l. ii.*
In this cite Welleth up and springeth hote bathes and men wene
that Julius cæsar made there suche bathes. *R.* But *Gaufre. mone*
mutensis in his Britons book seyth that *Bladud* made thilke ba-
thes because that *William* hath not seen that Britons book wrote so
by tellyng of othir men, or by his owne gessing as he wrote othir
thinges not best causedly. Therfore it semeth more sothly that *bla-*
dud made not the hote bathes, ne *Julius cæsar* dide suche a dede
though *Bladud* bilde and made the cyte, but it accordeth better to
kendly reson that the water renneth in the erthe by keynes of *hy-*
mission and sulphur and so is kendly made hote in that cours &
springeth up in diuerse places of the cite. And so ther ben hote ba-
thes that Wasseth of *wtres* fources and *shabbis*, *Truissa*, Though
men myght by craft make hote bathes for to dure longe y nough
this accordeth well to reson and to philosophy that treateth of hote
Wellis and bathes that ben in diuerse londes though the water of
this bath be more trobly and sourer of sauour and of smelle than
othir hote bathes ben that I haue seen at *akon* in *Almagn* And
at *Eyges* in *sauoye*, which ben fair and clere as ony cold Welle
streame, I haue ben bathed therein and assayed them. *R.* *Claudius*
cæsar married his doughter to *Arminagus* kyng of Britons, This
Claudius cæsar bildd *gloucestre* in the Weddying of his doughter
Britons called this cite first after *Claudius* name, but afterward
hit was called *gloucestre* after one *glora*, which was duke of that
contrey and stondesth upon seuarn in the marche of Englonde and
Wales, *Shrovesbury* is a cite upon seuarne in the marche of en-
glonde and Wales. y sette upon the toppe of an hylle, And it is cal-
led *shrovesbury* of *shrobbes* and fruyt that growe there somtyme
on that hille, Britons cleped it somtyme *pengwern*, that is the he-
de of a faire tree, *Shrovesbury* was somtyme the hede of *po Wesie*
that stretcheth forth thwert ouer the myddell of Wales into the
Irish see, *Notyngdam* stondesth upon trente and somtyme hiet
Snotyngdam that is the wonnyng of *dennes* for the *danes* dwell
ed there somtyme and dygged *dennes* and caues vnder hard
stones and rockes and dwellled there. *R.* *Lyncoln* is chief of the
prouynce of *lyndesaye* and was callid somtyme *Caerludocyt*, &
afterward *lyndecolyn*, It is *vnknowyn* who bildd first this cite
but yf it were kyng *lud*, and so it semeth by menyng of the na-
me, for *Caer* is *british* and is to saye a cite and *coyt* is a wode,
and so it semeth that *Caerludocyt* is to saye *luddes wode* towne,

kyng edgar come thider somtyme With viij. kynges & Were subget
 to him & metter breketh out in this maner in praysing of this ci
 ty, Elysew castell toun as it Were name taketh of a castell, It is
 Unknowe What man biled this cite now, Tho legendaria ches, hete
 now toun of legiones Now Walssh and englyssh, holde this tou
 ne of grete pris, Stones on Walke, semeth Werke hercules all, ther
 longe With myght, to dure that hepe is y hight, Sayon small sco
 nes, sette Upon grete ben attones, Ther Under grounde, lityng dou
 ble bout is founde, that helpeth With sondre, many men of Western
 londes, fyssh flessh and corne low, this cite toun hath y now, ship
 pes and chaffare, see Water bringeth ynough thare, Godesalle
 ther is, that Was Emperour er this, And ferth henry kyng, erthe
 is there righten duellyng, Of kyngs haralde, powder is ther yet y
 halde, Bacchus and mercurius, Mars and Venus, also laucerna,
 Protheus and pluto regnen there in the toun, Treuisa, God Wote
 What this is to mene, but poetes in her maner of speche feynen as
 though every kynde craft and luyng had a diuerse god auerich
 from othir, And so they feyned a god of bataill and of fighting
 and callid hym mars, and a god of couetise of richesse and mar
 chandise, and called hym mercurius And so bacchus he called god
 of Wyne, Venus goddesse of loue and beaute, laucerna god of thefte
 and of robbery Protheus god of falshe and of gyle and Plu
 to god of helle, And so it semeth that these verses Wold mene, that
 these forsaide goddes regne and ben serued in chesre, Mars With
 fyghtyng and cokkyng, Mercurius With couetise of richesse and
 marchandise, Bacchus With grete drynkkyng, Venus With loue
 beuoly, Lauerna With theft and robbery, Protheus With falshe
 de and gyle, Tenne is Pluto not Inserued god of helle, R, Ther
 babilon low more myght hath trouthe the more

Of prouynces and shires

Ca. x.

O Like hede that england condryneth xxxij. shires and prou
 ynecs that now ben called erldoms reserued Cornerwap
 te & the ylandes Alfre. These ben the names of the erldoms
 & shires, Kent Southsey Sothrey Hampshire Barokshire that
 hath his name of a bare ook that is in the forest of Wyndesore, for
 at that bare ook, men of that shire Were Wonte come to gedres and
 make theyr tretis, & there take counayll & aduys, Also Wyldshyre
 that hiet somtyme the prouynce of Semetan, Somerset, Dorsete
 Deuenshyre that now is called Deuonia in latin, These iij. south
 shires the Tamps departed from the othir del of england Whiche

Were somtyme gouerned and ruled by the Westsaxons labe,
Essex myddelsex southfolk northfolk hertfordshyre huntingdon
shyre Northampton shyre Cambridgeshyre Bedfordshyre Wyke
kyngshamshyre Lecestreshyre Derbyshyre Nottingham shyre Lyn-
colnshyre Yorkeshyre Durhamshyre Northumberland Caerleyleshi-
re With Cumberlond Appelbyshyre With Westmerlond, Lancast-
shyre that contayneth fyne litell shires, These xv. north and Essex
shires Were somtyme gouerned and ruled by that labe which
is called danelawe But Openford shire Warwykshyre gloucestre
shyre Wircastreshyre herfordshyre Shropshyre staffordshyre cheshyres
These viij. myddell and West shires Were somtyme gouerned and
ruled by the labe called Mercia in latin and merche labe in
englyssh, It is to witte that yorke shire stretcheth from the Ryuer of
of humbre vnto the riuer of Teyse, And yet in yorke shire ben xxxij.
hondredis hundred and candred is all one, Candred is one word
made of Walssh and Jyssh and is to menyng a contrey that con-
tyneth an hondred tounes, and is also in englyssh called Wepn-
tak, for somtyme in the comyng of a new lord, ternauntcs Were
Wont to yelde by her Wepn in fiede of homage, Duramshyre stret-
cheth from the Ryuer Teyse vnto the riuer of Tyne, And to speke
propely of Northumberland it stretcheth fro the riuer of Tyne vnto
the riuer of Tweede that is in the begynnyng of Scotland, Then
yf the contrey of Northumberland that was sommetyme from
hambre vnto tweede be now accounted for one shire and one Erle-
dome as it was sommetyme, Thenne ben in Englonde but xxxij.
shires, but if the contrey of Northumberland be departed in to vij.
shires, that ben Euerwykshyre Duramshyre Northumberland Ca-
erleyleshyre Appelbyshyre and Lancastshyre, Thenne ben in englonde
xxxvij. shires Without Cornewayle and also without the Hon-
des, Kyng William conquerour made alle these prouynces and
shires to be descrued and moten, Thenne Were founden xxxvij. shi-
res and half a shire, Tounes two and fifty thousand four score
parissch chirches xlviij. M. and two, knyghtes fees lxxviij. M. Wher
of men of religion haue xxxviij. M. xv. knyghtes fees, But now
Woodes ben ben down and the londe newe tilled & made moche
more than was at that tyme and many tounes and Villages byl-
ded, and so ther ben many mo Villages and tounes now than
were in that tyme, And where as afore is wroton that Corne &
Wayle is not sette among the shires of Englonde, it may stonde
among the m well ynough, for it is neyther to Wales neyther in

scotland but is in england and joyneeth to deuenshire And so may
ther be accompted in england xxxvii. shires and an half with the
other shires.

De legibus legumq; vocabulis

Don Wallo that heet Moliuncius also made first lawes in
Britayne the which lawes were alle moliuncius law
es, and were solumpnly obserued vnto William conque
rours tyme, Moliuncius ordeyned amonge his lawes, that ciues
temples and wayes that shede men therto, and yowmen solowes
shold haue priuilege & freedom for to saue all men that wold flee
therto for socour and refuge, Thenne after ward Marcia quene of
brutons that was gytylous wyf of her the prouync had the na
me mercia as somme men suppose, She made a lawe full of right
of wyte and of reson, and was called mercheue lawe, Gildas
that wrote the histories of brutons turned these two lawes oute
of briton speche in to latin, And after ward kyng Aluredus tur
ned all oute of latin in to Saxon speche, and was called mer
cheue lawe, Also the same kyng Aluredus wrote in englyssh and
put to anothir lawe that heet Westsaxon lawe Thenne after ward
danes were lordes in this londe, and so come forth the thirde lawe
that heet dane lawe, Of these thre lawes seint Edward the thirde
made one commune lawe that yet is called seint Edwardes lawe
I holde it well done to write here and expoune many termes of
these lawes, Myndebruch, hurting of honour and worsship, In
frensch bleschur dishonour, Bursbrug in frensch bleschur de court
ou de choyse, Gritbruch brekyng of pees, Mysskenyng changing
of speche in court, the wyng settyng forth of marchandise in frensch
Dispoier de marchandise, Hamfokne or hamfare a rese made in
houes for stallynge Wrong or lette don in the kynges hye waye frith
soken, se wre in defence, Sak forfait Soka, sute of court, and ther
of cometh, soken, Theam, sute of bondmen fyghtyng wyte Amerse
ment for fyghtyng, Blode wyte, Mersement for shedyng of blode
flit wyte, amendes for chidyng of blode Leir wyte, amendes for ly
eng by a bonde woman, Gult wit, amendes for trespass, Scot a ga
dryng to, Werke of bayllies, Hidage, taillage for hydes of londe,
Daneged, taillage payen to the danes, that was of euery lona
tature, that is euery oye londe thre pens, A Wepentak and an
hundred is all one, For the contrie of tounes were wont to gyue
vp Wepen in the comyng of a lord, Restage, custome p chalengid

in chepiuges faires and stallage custome for stonding in streets
in feire tyme

Of kyngdoms of boundes & merkes bitwene them Ca. xij

The kyngdome of Britayne stode without departing folk
& all one kyngdom to the Britons from the first brute un
to Julius cæzars tyme, and fro Julius cæzars tyme unto
Seuerus tyme this lond was vnder tribute to the romayns Ne
thelkes kynges they had of the same londe from seuerus unto þ last
prince graciā succours of Britons faulled & romayns reigned in
Britayne, Afterward the romayns left of her regning in Britayn
because it was fer from rome, & for grete besynesse that they had in
othir side, Then scottes & picles by muskeding of Maximus the ty
raunt purslewed Britayne & werred therein with grete strengthe of
men of armes longe tyme unto the tyme that the sayons come atte
praing of the Britons agens the picles, & put oute Surmonde the
juss kyng with his picles & the Britons also with her kyng that
heet Caradoc & drofe hem out of england in to Wales, & so the say
ons were victours, & euery prouynce after his strengthe made he
a kyng, And so departed england in to viij. kyngdomes Nethelkes af
terward those viij. kyngdomes euery after othir come alle in to one
kyngdome all hool vnder the prince adelfstone, Neuertheles the danes
poursued this lond fro Adelwolfis tyme that was Aluredes fa
der unto the thirde seint Edwardes tyme about C. lxx. yere that re
igned therein continually xxx. yere After the danes the iij. seint Ed
ward reigned therein xxij. yere & a litill more And after him harald
held the kyngdome ix. monethes, & after hem Neamans haue reg
ned unto this tyme, But how longe they shall regne, he wote, to
whom no thing is vnknewen, R. Of the forsaide viij. kyngdomes
of her merkes merres and boundes whan they began & how longe
they endured here shall I som what shortly telle, Alfre. The firste
kyngdome was the kyngdome of Kent, that stretcheth fro the east
Ocean unto the Ryuer of Tamys, There reigned the firste hengist
And began to regne by the acōpting of dionise the yere of our lord
ccc. lxx. that kyngdom dured cc. lxx. yere vnder xv. kynges unto
the tyme that baldrice was put out & eglert kyng of Westsaxon
joynd þ kyngdom to his owne The. ij. kyngdom was of Southsax
on þ had in the est side Kent in the south the see & the yle of Wyght
in þ West hāpsire & in the north sothery ther eke reigned first with

his thre sonnes, And began to regne the yere after the comyng of
the angles cccc. lxxv. But that kyngdome within a short tyme pas-
sed in to othir kyngdomes, The thirde kyngdome was of essex
on, and had in the est syde the see, in the west the contrey of Lon-
don, in the south Tamysse, in the north southfolke, The kynges of
this contrey essex from the first sekeres tyme vnto the tyme of
the Danes were ten kynges whiche were subget somdel to othir
kynges, Notwylles of erst and longest they were vnder the kyngis
of Mercia, and vnto that tyme that Egbert kyng of Westsaxon
joyned that kyngdome to his owne, The fourthe kyngdome was
of est anglis and conteyned Norffolk and suffolk, and had in
the est syde and in the north the see, in the north west Cambrige
shyre, in the west seint Edmondes dyche and herfordshire, And
in the south Essex, This kyngdome dured vnder twelue kyngis
vnto the tyme that kyng Edmond was slayne, And thenne the
danes toke wrongfully bothe the kyngdomes of est anglis and of
Essex, Afterward the danes were putte and driven away
or made subgette, And the elder kyng Edward joyned bothe
the kyngdomes to his owne, The fyfthe kyngdome was of West-
saxon and dured longest of all these kyngdomes, and had in the
est side southsaxon, in the north Tamysse, in the south and west
the see Oxen, In that kyngdome reigned Serdrik with his so-
ne Henryk and began to regne the yere of our lord. B. C. xix. and
after the comyng of angles lxxj. so seyth denys the othir kyngdo-
mes passed in to this kyngdome, The sixte kyngdome was of mer-
cia and was greetest of all, The markis and the meres therof we-
re in the west side the riner dee fast by Chestre and leuarn fast by
Shrovesbury vnto Wristowe in the este, the est see, in the south
Tamysse vnto London, In the north the riuier humbre And so west
ward and downeward vnto the riuier merse vnto the corner of
Wirhall, there humbre falleth in to the west see, Penda Wibbes so-
ne reigned first in this kyngdome in the yere of our lord Ihesu crist
Bj. C. xxvj. so seyth denys, And fro the comyng of angles an C.
lxxvj. yere, This kyngdome dured vnder xviij. kynges aboute a.
lxxij. yere vnto the laste Colwulf, to the whiche Colwulf the da-
nes brake that kyngdome to kepe, Whan Burdred the kyng was
putte out, but the elder Edward the kyng put out the danes &
joyned the kyngdome of mercia to his owne kyngdome Notwylles
at the begynnyng this kyngdome of mercia was deuided in thre in
West mercia, in myddell mercia & est mercia The vij. kyngdom was

Northhamshire that is the kyngdome of Northumberland, the
meres and markes therof were by west & by east the see of Oze
an by south the Ryuer of humbre and so downeward to ward the
west by the sides of the shires of notingham & of derby vnto the ri
uer of Mersee, & by north the scottish see that bett forth in scot
tish, Weris in batish, the scottish see in english, This kyngdome
of Northumberland was first deled in two prouynces, that one
was the south side & bett depra, & that othir was the north side &
bett brencia, as it were two kyngdome, And the riuer departed
these two kyngdome that tyme, for the kyngdome of depra was
from the Ryuer of humbre vnto the riuer of Tyne, The kyngdome
of brencia was fro tyne to the scottish see, And when piates ducl
led there as Beda saith li. iij. ca. ij. that Niman that holy man con
uerted men of the south side, Ida the kyng reigned there first and
began to reigne the yere of our lord B. C. xlviij. so seith dyonise, In
depra reigned kyng Elle the yere of our lord B. C. xliij. These two
kyngdome were othir while as it is said departed bitwene ij. kyn
ges & somtyme all hoel vnder one kyng, and dured as it were
xx. English kynges CCC. xxi. yere, At the last Osbertus & Elle
were slayne in the ix. yere of her kyngdome, the dancs stode hem,
and Northumberland was voyde withoute kyng vij. yere, Then
afterward the dancs reigned in Northumberland xxxij. yere vnto
the conyng of the kyngdome Adelstone, he made subgette the kyn
ges dancs scottish and walish, & reigned first allone in Englonde
and he made the kyngdome of englonde all hoel and all one kyngdome
that was the yere of our lord B. ij. C. xxiij. That riuer of Mersee
was somtyme the mark and mere bitwene the kyngdome of mer
cia and the kyngdome of Northumberland, that may be shewd in
two maners, first by the properie of this mersee, that is as moche
to saye as a see that is a bounde & a mere for it departeth one kyng
dome from anothir, Also it is writen in cronike of henry & of Al
frede that kyng Edward the elder fastened a castell at manaster
in Northumberland, but that Cete manaster is fro the Ryuer of
mersee scarly. iij. myle

Of bisschoppricks and of their sees

Ca. xiiij

Idaus was the first kyng cristend of the britons, in his
tyme were thre archbisschops sees in Britayne, one was
at london, another at yorke, and the thirde at Eborak the

13
Cyt of legions in glamergone, that Cyt now is called Carleon
to these archebissops sees were subgette xxviii. bissops and were
called flamines, to the archebissops see of london was subgette
Cornwall & all myddell england vnto humbre, To york all north
humberlond from the sothe of humbre with all scotland, To Caer
leon all Wales, ther were in Wales vii. bissops & now ben but
foure, Tho seuarne departed england and Wales, Wilhel. de pos.
li. j. but in sayns tyme though sent gregorie had graunted lon
don the priuilege of tharchebissops see Netheles sent Austyn
was sente in to england by sent Gregorie to ned tharchebissops
see out of london in to Caunterbury, After sent Gregories daye
atte prayer of kyng athelbryht and Eideries and burgeyses of
Caunterbury, ther tharchebissops see hath dured vnto now sa
ue that in the mens tyme Offa kyng of Mercia was wroth with
men of Caunterbury, and benam hem that worship, and wor
shiped Adulph bissopp of lichfeld, with the archebissops palle by
assente of Adrian the Pope vpon was by yeres senx, Netheles
vnder Kenilph the kyng it was restored to Caunterbury agayn
The worship of the see of york hath dured there alway and dured
yet though scotland be withdraue fro his subiection by passing of
tyme, Sir. in itinere lib. i. primo, The archebissops see was y
ned out of Carleon in to Menauia that is in the West side of me
rcia vpon the Tass see in sent dauids tyme vnder kyng Ar
thur, From sent dauids tyme vnto sampsons tyme were in me
neuia archebissops xxiiij. Afterward fell a pestilence in all Wa
les of the yelow euill, that is called the jaundis And then samp
son the Archebissopp toke with him the palle and went in to ba
tayne Armonia the laste Bataynz and was there bissopp of do
leusis, From that tyme vnto the first harres tyme kyng of En
gland were at menauia which is called sent dauids xvi. bissops
all without palle, whether it were for unconnyng or for pouerte,
Netheles alway fro that tyme the bissops of Wales were sacred
of the bissopp of menauia of sent dauids, & the bissopp of menauia
was sacred of the bissops of Wales as of his suffragans & made
no profess. on ne subiection to none othir chirche, Other bissoppes
that com: afterward were sacred at Caunterbury by compelling
and freest of the kyng, in token of that sacryng and subiection to
necesse archebissopp of Caunterbury that was legate of the crosse
songe in euery Ca Bedzall chirche of Wales solemnly, Was he
was the first archebissopp of Caunterbury that so did in Wales, &

that was done in the seconde barres tyme. R. But now ben but
two primates in all england of caunterbury & of york. To the pri-
mate of Caunterbury ben subget xiiij. bissshops in england & four
in wales. The primate of york hath but two suffragans in england
that ben the bissshops of Eacerleyll and of durham. Of all these sees
and chaunynge of her places I shall shewe you hir folowynge.
Take hede in the begynnynge of holy churche in england bissshops
ordeyned their sees in lorde places and simple that were couenable
for contemplacion for prayers and deuocion. But in William co-
querours tyme by dome of lawe Canon it was ordeyned that bis-
shops shold come oute of smale townes in to grete Citees. Therfor
was the see of dorchester chaunged to lyncoln, lychfeld to chester
Ectford to Norwiche, Shireborn to Salisburie, Welles to Bathe,
Cornwayll to Exeter, and selesey to Chichester. The bisschoppe of
Rocheſtre hath no parisshe but he is tharchbisschops chapelayn of
Caunterbury. Sith the see of Caunterbury was first ordeyned
by seint Austyn, it chaunged yet neuer his place. Chichester hath
vnder hym only southsey and the isle of Wight. And had his see
first in selesey in the tyme of tharchbisschop Theodore. And the see
dured there CCC. xxviij. yere vnder xx. bisschops fro the first Wil-
fride vnto the last stygande, atte commaundement of kyng Wilkia
conquerours chaunged the see fro selesey to Chichester.

De episcopis occidentaliſbus, Wilhelmus.

Hue mynde that all the prouynce of Westsaxon had al-
way one bisschop fro the begynnynge vnto Theodorius tyme,
by graunt of kyng. Also kyng of Westsaxon the first
birinus ordeyned a see at dorchester that is a simple towne by south
Openford byside Walingford. hit bene the metynge to gedye of
tyme & tyme. Whan birinus was dede kenwaldeus the kyng ordeyned
a see at Wyncheſtre as his fadre had purposed. ther agilbert a freſh
man was first bisschop of all the prouynce of Westsaxon, fro that
tyme the cite and the see of dorchester perteyned & longed to the pro-
uynce of mercia, for that cite stondeth within Temse. And the
Temse departed hit bene mercia and Westsaxon. After that agil-
bert was put oute of Wyncheſtre that tho hight Wynſton. Ther was
there an engliſh bisschop there that was called Wyne. Somme
men suppose that the Cite hath the name of this Wyne, and is
called Wyncheſtre, as it were Wynes Cite. At the laste he was
put oute and after hym come Leutherius the forsaide Agel-

heres newe. After Leutherius bedda a while was bisshopp there,
 Whan he was dede Theodorus tharchbisshopp ordeyned ii. bisshoppes
 to the prouynce of Westsaxon, Daniel at Wynchestre, to him were
 subgette two countreys Sothery & southampshire, Aldelme at shir-
 born, to him were subgette six countreys, Barkshire Wiltshire so-
 merset dorsetshire deunshire & Cornewayll, Treusa, It semeth
 by this that Westsaxon conteyned sothery, southampshire Bark-
 shire Wiltshire Somersetshire dorsetshire deunshire and Corne-
 wayll, Wilhel. Afterward in elder Edwardes tyme to these two
 sees were ordeyned by commaundement of formosus the pope thre
 othir sees, At Welles for somerset, At kypton for deunshire, & at
 seint german for cornewayll, Not full longe afterward the sixte
 see was sette at ramesbury for Wiltshire At the last by commaun-
 dement of kyng William conquerour all these sees saue Wynchestre
 were turned & chaunged out of small townes in to grete ciities for
 shirborn & Ramesbury were turned in to Salisbury Now to that
 see is subgette Barkshire Wiltshire & dorset, The see of Welles
 was turned to Bath, thereto is now subgette all somerset, The sees
 of kypton & of Cornewayll were chaunged to Exestre, thereto is
 subgette deunshire & Cornwayll

De orientallibus episcopis

It is knowen that the east saxons alway fro the begyn-
 nyng to now were subget to the bisshopp of london But
 the prouynce of east anglas that conteyneth norffolke &
 suffolke had on bisshopp at donwyk, the bisshopp heet felix & was
 of bourgoyne & was bisshopp vii. yere, After him Thomas was
 bisshopp vi. yere, After him bonefrax vii. yere, Thenne byscho after
 ward was ordeyned by theodorus and reuold the prouynce whi-
 le he myght endure by him selfe allone, After him into Egbertes
 tyme kyng of Westsaxons an C. xlii. two bisshops reuold that
 prouynce one at donwyk & another at Elingham, Netheles after
 ludecans tyme kyng of Mercia luf & was only one see at Eling-
 ham into the vi. yere of Willia conquerours, Whan herfastus the
 xxiij. bisshopp of the estrene chaunged his see to Tetford, and his
 successour Herbertus chaunged the see fro Tetford to Norwiche
 by leue of kyng William the rede, The see of Ely that is neybe
 thereto the first kyng harry ordeyned the ix. yere of his regne, and
 made subgette ther to Cambriggeshire that was to fore a parte of
 the bisshoppe of Lyncolne, And for quitinge ther of, he gaf

to the bisschop of lincoln a good toun called spaldyng

De episcopis mercioru Wilhelmus.

Here take hede that as the kyngdome of mercia was al-
way greetest for the tyme so it was delid in mo bisschopri-
ches and specially by greet heret by kyng offa, which was
xl. yere kyng of mercia, he changed the archbisschops see fro cauter
bury to lychfeld by assent of Adrian the pope, Thenne the pryn-
ce of mercia and of lyndeffer in the first begynnyng of her cristen-
dome in kyng Wulfstans tyme had one bisschop at lychfeld, the
first bisschop that was there het Wynna, the second het Celath, &
were bothe scottes, After hem the thirde Triphar, the fourth Jar-
muannus, the fyfte Ethelred, But in Edelfredes tyme that was
Wulfers broder Whan Ethelred was dede, Theodoras tharchbisschop
ordeyned there Wynstede Ethelredes deken, Metheles apud hymdon
after that for he was Unbuxom in somme point he ordeyned there
Sey Wulf abbot of medamstede that is named burgh, But after
sey Wulfs fourthe yere Theodoras tharchbisschop ordeyned fyve bis-
shops in the prouynce of mercia, And so he ordeyned Bosell at
Wircestre, Cudwyn at lichfeld, the forsaide Sey Wulf at Chestre,
Edebyn at lyndesey atte cite Sidenia, and he toke Eata monke
of the abbey of hylde at Whitby and made hym bisschop of dorches-
tre besides Openford, Tho this dorchestre het dorkyng, and so the
see of that longed to Westsaxon in seint Birnes tyme longed to
mercia from theodoras the archbisschops tyme, Ethelred kyng of
mercia had destroyed kente, this bisschop Sey Wulf toke pictas
bisschop of Rochestre that come oute of kente and made hym first
bisschop of herford, After that Whan sey Wulf was dede hedda was
bisschop of lychfeld after him, & Wilfred fled oute of northum-
berland was bisschop of chestre, Metheles after two yere Alfrede
kyng of northumberland deyde, and Wilfred turned agayn to
his owne see hagustalden, And so hedda helde bothe the bisschopri-
ches of lichfeld and of chestre After hym come Albyn that het
Wor also, and after him come thre bisschoppis, Torta at chestre Wit-
ta at lichfeld and Eata was yet at dorchestre, After his dech bis-
shops of lyndesey helde his see & c. lvi. yere, Unto remigius chan-
ged the see to lyncoln by leue of the first kyng William, But in
Edgars tyme bisschop leofwinus joyned bothe the bisschopriches to-
gyder of chestre & lyndeffer while his lyf dured

De episcopis northumbranis, Wilhel. de poñ. l. c. xj.

The see of York was soon see for all the prouynce of Northum-
 berland. Paulinus helde first that see and was ordeyned
 of the bisschop of cuntherbury and helde that see of yorke
 vij. yere. Afterward when kynge Eadwyn was slayne & thynges
 were distourbed, Paulinus wente thens by water way in to kent
 from thens he come first & toke with him the palle, Wilhel. li. iij.
 And so the bisschopriche of yorke crested xxx. yere, & the use of the palle
 seced there an C. xvj. yere vnto that Egbert the bisschop that was
 the kynges broder of the londe reuouered it by auctorite of the pope
 R, when seint Osvald regned. Aidanus a scot was bisschop in
 brentia that is the north side of Northumberlond, after him Fini-
 anus, after hym Salmanus, Wilhel. lvi. s. Atte last he went in
 to scotland with grete indignacion for Wilfride undertoke him for
 he helde vnlawfully easterday xxx. yere after that Paulinus was
 gone from thens Wilfride was made bisschop of yorke, Bede li. iij.
 but while he duckled long in frauer aboute his sacryng at waiting
 of quartadecimanow, that were they that helde easterday the viij.
 day of the mone Etheode was y take oute of his Abbeie of lidinge
 and wrongfully put oute in to the see of yorke by assent of kyng
 Oswy. But thre yere afterward Theodorus tharchbisschop dyde
 hym a way and assigned him to the prouynce of Mercia, and re-
 stowed Wilfred to the see of yorke. But after Wilfred by cause of
 wrath that was bitwene him and the kyng Egfrid was put out
 of his see by helpe of theodorus tharchbisschop that was corrupt
 with somme maner mede, this was done after that Wilfred had
 ten bisschop of yorke ten yere. Thenne atte instaunce of the kyng the
 odorus made Cosam bisschop of yorke and Cumbert at hagustald
 chirche, and cata at lundeffar chirche that now is called haly Iohn
 in the Riuer of Ewe, Aidanus founded first the see, and Theo-
 dorus made Eadredus bisschop of Repoune that was comen a
 gayne oute of lundefare, Wilfred had be Abbot of Repoun, Theo-
 dorus sente Crundyn to the londe of pices in theendes of england
 fast by scotland in a place that heet candida casa, & Whiterne also,
 there seint Nynian a briton was first foundour & doctor, But all
 these sees outake yorke fayled litell and litell, for the see of can-
 dida casa that is Galewey that longed tho to Englong dured ma-
 ny yeres vnder ten bisschops, vnto that it had no power by destoy-
 yng of the pices, The sees of hagustald and of lundeffar was
 sommetyme all one vnder ix. bisschops aboute foure score yere and
 ten and dured vnto the comyng of the danes In that tyme vnder

hyngar and? hubba Arduif the biffhopp yede longe aboute With
 feint Euferts body vnto kyng Aluredes tyme kyng of Weftfaxon
 and? the fee of lyncdeffar Was sette at Runcgefetre that is called Ru-
 nyngisburgh alfo, that place is called now Dbbeford? vpon tWe
 de, Atte laft the yvii. yere of kyng Egkert kyng edgarias fone that
 fee Was changed to durham, & feint Eufbertes body Was brouzt
 thider by the doyng of Edmond? the biffhop, and fro that tyme for
 Ward? the fee of hagufteald & of lyncdeffar faileth vtterly The firft
 kyng henry the ix. yere of his regne made the new fee at Caerlepe

O He archbiffhopp of Caunterbury hath vnder hym viii.
 biffhops in england and foure in Wales. he hath rocheftre
 vnder hym & that fee hath vnder him a pte in kent allone
 London hath vnder hym ekefey myddelfey and half herfordfhyre,
 Epycheftre hath vnder him southfey & the Jte of Wyght Wyncheftre
 hath vnder hym hampfhyre & fouteceyre, Salefbury hath vnder
 hym barkfhire Wildefhire & dorfet, Exetre hath vnder hym deuen-
 fhire and CorneWapll, Bathe hath vnder hym fomersetfhire allo-
 ne, Wirceftre hath vnder hym glouceftre fhire Wirceftrefhire & half
 WarWylfhire, Herforde hath vnder hym herfordfhire & fomme of
 fhropfhire, Cheftre is biffhopp of couentre & of lychfeld, & hath vnder
 him cheftrefhire staffordfhire derbifhire half WarWylfhire fom-
 me of fhropfhire, & fomme of lancastrefhire fro the riner of merfee
 vnto the riuier of rippell, Lyncoln hath vnder hym the prouynces
 that ben bitwere Cample and? humbre that ben the fhires of lyn-
 coln of leycetere of northampton of huntynghdon of bedford? of
 folkyngbam of openford? and? half herfordfhire, Ely hath vnder
 hym Cambrigesfhire oute take merlonde North Wyche hath vnder
 hym merlonde Norffolk and? Suffolke, Also tharchbiffhoppe of
 Caunterbury hath foure fuffrygans in Wales that ben, Landa?,
 Seint Daures Bangor and? faynt Affaph, the archbiffhopp of
 york hath now but tWo biffhops vnder hym that ben Durham
 and? Caerlepe R, And? fo ben but tWo primates in Englonde,
 What one of hem fhall doo to that othir and? in What maner point
 he fhall be obedient and? vnder hym, It is fully conteyned? With
 inne aboute the yere of our lord? Jhesu crist a. M. lxxii. tofore the
 firft kyng? William, and? the biffhops of Englonde? by commaun-
 dement of the pope the caufe Was handled? and? y treated bitwere
 the forfayd? primates, and ordeyned? and demed? that the primate
 of york fhall be fubget to the primate of Cannterbury in thingis
 that longen to the Worfhip of god? and to the beue of holy chirche

therof, of the which seyth Bede li. iij. ca. xj. that Sennulfus was
first bissopp ther. But Bede seyth li. iij. ca. xxij. that lundefferne
chirche is an Ilande that is called haly Ilande in the riuer thwede,
next berwyk, And so it is gadred of Bedes Sawes that thwede
renneth in to the famous arme of the see that now deyth englissh
men & scottes in the eesthalf, & in that arme ben thre Ilandes, That
one is Mailros that now is called menros, Thenne aboue to ward
the West is lundefferne chirch that is called haly Ilande Thenne the
thirde is aboue by ward and is the Ilande farne, and is called also
farny Ilande, Thenne by ward aboue that two myle is a ryall cite
te upon the brinke of thwede, that somtyme heithe Sehanburgh y
is to hles cite, and now is called hambahurgh and hath a right str
ge castell Sir. in itinere, Two citres ther ben either is called Caer
legion and Caerleon also, Don is Demecia in south Wales that
is named Caerusk also, there the riuer yske falleth in to seuarne
fast by Glamorgan, Wellin kyng of britons somtyme biledy y
cite and was somtyme the chief cite of Demecia in south Wales,
Afterward in Claudius azars tyme hit was y called the Eyre
of legyons whan atte praier of Genius the quene Vaspasianus
and Aruragus were accorded and legyons of rome were sende in
to Irlonde tho was Carleon a noble cite and of grette auctorite &
by the romayns rielly biled & walked aboute with walles of f. ene
tyle, Grette nobley that was there in old tyme is there yet in many
places seen, as the grette palayses gyantes toures, noble bathes, re
leef of the temples places of theatres, that were places hye and
riall to stonde and sitte in, And to beholde aboute, the places were
rially closed with riall walles that yet somdele stonde right nyhe
elbos, And withinne the walles and withoute is grette bilydng
Under erthe, Water condytes and weyes Under erthe and seewes al
so thou shalt see wonderly made with strapt side weyes of brething
that wonderly ast by hte, In this cite were somtyme thre noble
chirches, one was of seint Julius the martir and ther in a grette
company of Virgyns, That othir was of seint Aaron, that was
of the orde of black chanons, that chirch was right nobly adour
ned, The thirde chirch was the chief moder chirch of alle Wales
and the chief see, But afterward the chief see was turned oute
of that cite in to Menavia that is seint dauides Ilande in West Wales
In this Carleon was Amphibalus y born that taught seint al
lone, There the messagers of rome come to the grette Arthurs court
yf it is weffull to trowe Trevisa, yf Giraldo was in doubt whether

it Were keffull for to trove it or no, hit Were a Wondre ſeu en as
men Wold Wene for to haue euermore in mynde, and euer be in
doubt yf all his booke Were ſuche What fore Were therein & name
ly While he maketh non euidence for in neyther ſide he ſelicteth What
moueth him ſo for to ſaye, R/ There is another cite of legions there
his cronike Was hytrauailled as it is clerly knowen by the firſt
chapitre of this booke, Treuiſa, y is to vnderſtondyng in the latin
writing, For he that made it in latin turned it not in to Engliſh,
ne it Was turned in to engliſh in the ſame place that it Was firſt
in latin, The vnderſtandynge of hym that made this cronike is thus
Wroton in latin in the begynnynge of this booke, *Presentem cronikam*
compilauit frater Kanulphus Eſtrenſis monachus, that is
to ſaye in Engliſh, Broder Kanulph monke of Cheſtre compiled
and made this preſente cronike, R/ The Cytte of legyons that is
Cheſtre ſtondeth in the marche of Englonde to ward Wales hit be
ne two armee of the ſee that ben namede Dee and Merſee, This Ci
te in tyme of Brutus Was hede and chief Cytte of alle Bencodia
that is North Wales, The founder of this Cytte is vnknowen, For
Who that ſeeth the foundementes of the grette ſtones Wold rather
Wene that it Were Romaynes Werke or Werke of Spanaſ, than it
Were made by ſettyng of Brutus, This Cytte ſommetyme in ba
tiſh ſpeeche heet *Carthlon legceſtra* in latin, and Cheſtre in
Engliſhe and the Cytte of legions alſo, For ther lay a Wynter
the legions of kynghes that Julius ceſar ſente for to Wynter
londe, And after Claudius ceſar ſente legions oute of that Cytte
for to Wynter the Wynter that he callede wynter, What euer Wil
liam malmesbury by tellynge of othir men mette of this Cytte,
This Cytte hath plenty of lyuelode of corn of fleſh of fyſh, and
ſpecially of pris of Samon, this Cytte aſſeyueth grette marchaun
driſe and ſendeth oute alſo, Alſo neygh this Cytte ben ſalt Welles,
Metall and oore, Northumbres deſtroied this Cytte ſommetyme
me, But after ward Elfleda lady of Mercia buylde it a newe
ne and made it moche more, In this ſame Cytte ben Wynter vnder
the er he With towres and ſtonewerk wonderly y wrought thre
chambred Werkes grette ſtones y graue With old menneſ na
mes therein, Ther is alſo Julius ceſars name wonderly in ſtones
y graue and othir noble menneſ alſo With the writing aboute,
This is the Cytte that Ethelfryd kynge of Northumberland
deſtroied and ſlough there faſte by neygh two thouſand mon
kes of the mynſter of Bangor, **C** This is the Cytte that

so that in what place ever it be in england that the primate of canterbury wyl hold & constryne to gader a counseill of clergie, the primate of yorke is holden with his suffragans for to be there & for to be obedient to the ordinaunce that there shal lawfully be ordeyned. Whan the primate of Caunterbury is dede, the primate of yorke shal come to Caunterbury & with othir bisschops he shal sacre him that is chosen, & so with othir bisschoppes he shal sacre his owne primate yf the primate of yorke be dede, his successour shal come to the bisschop of Caunterbury & he shal take his ordenaunce of him & doo his oath with pfeccion & lawfull obedience. After within aboute the yere of our lord 75. C. lxxxv. in the tyme of kyng Richard the firste sette for the right of the parties for eyther primate, and what one primate dyde to that othir in tyme of Thurstin of Thomas & of othir bisschops of yorke from the conquest vnto kyng harries tyme the thirde. Also there it is said how eche of them starde from othir. This place is but a forspelyng & not a full treatise therof. Therefore it were noyfull to charge this place with all thilke reasons that there ben made

Of how many maner peple hath duellid therein — C. viiiij

Brytons duelled first in this Ilande the vij. yere of hely the pphe, the vij. yere of Solinus posthumus kyng of latins, vij. yere after the taking of Troye, so fore the byldyng of rome CCC. lxxxij. yere. B. da li. j. They come heder and toke her cours from Armorik that now is that othir Britayn, they helde longe tyme the south contrees of the Ilande, hit befell after ward in Vaspasianus tyme duke of Rome, that the pices shipped out of scia in to Ocean, & were driven aboute with the wynde & entred in to the north costes of Irlond & fonde there scottes and prayde to haue a place to duelle inne, & myght none gete. For Irlond as scottes saide myght not susteyne both peple. Scottes sente the pices to the north sides of Britayne, and beghit them helpe against the Britons that were their enemies yf they wolde arise, & toke hem wyues of her doughtres, upon suche condicion yf doubtfull, who shold haue right for to be kyng, they shold rather ches se hem a kyng of the moder side, than of the fadre side, of the wy men kyn rather than of the men kyn. Cause. In Vaspasian the Emperours tyme whan Marius Aruagns sone was kyng of britons One Rodryk kyng of pices cam out of scia and gan to

destroy Scotland. Thenne Marius the kyng slew this vaderik and
pas the north partie of Scotlande that heet Catthenesia to the men þ
were come with vaderik and were ouercome by hym for to duelle
inne. But these men had no wyues ne none myght haue of the
nacion of Britons, therfor they sailed in to Irelande & toke to theyr
wyues Irishmens doughtres by that couenaunt that the moder
bloode shold be put to fore in succession of heritage. Bir. ca. xvij. Ne
these Sirinus sup Virgiliū seyth that pices ben agatirses that
had somme duellyng place aboute the Waters of Sciaia, and they
ben called pices of peynting and smyting of woundes that ben
sene on her body. So that they semed as men were peynted with
woundes therfore they were called pices as peynted men. These
men and these gothes ben all one peple. For Whan Maximus the
tyrant was wente oute of Britayne in to fraunce for to occupye the
pire. Thenne gracianus and Valentinianus that were bretheren &
felawes of the myppe brought these gothes oute of Sciaia with gre
te yfete with flaterynge and fayre behestes in to the northcontrey
of Britayne. For they were stalworth and stronge men of armes.
And so these theypse brabours were made men of londe & of contre
and duelled in the north contreyes and helde there cites & townes
Gaufre. Caranaius the tyrant sloe bassianus by helpe and tre
son of the pices that come in helpe and socour of bassianus, and
pas the pices a duellyng place in albania that is Scotlande, there
they duelled longe tyme after ward y medled with Britons. R.
Thenne sith that pices occupied first the north side of Scotlande. It
semeth that the duellyng place that this Caranaius pas hem is the
southside of Scotlande that stretcheth from the thwert ouer Wall of
romayns Werk to the scottysse see, and contyneth Galleway and
lodonua that is lodoway. Eke of Beda li. iij. ca. ij. speketh in this
maner. Nynyan the holy man conuerted the south pices. After
ward the Saxons come and made that contrey longe to brencia
the north partie of Northumberland. Vnto the tyme that kynadi
Alpinus sone kyng of Scotlande put oute the pices, and made
that contrey that lyeth bitwene t Wede and the scottysse see longe
to his kyngdome. Beda li. j. ca. j. Afterward longe tyme the scot
tes were led by duke renda, and come oute of Irelande that is the
propre contrey of scottes and with due or with strength made hem
a place fast by the pices in the northside of that arme of the see,
that breketh in to the londe in the west side that departed in olde
tyme bitwene Britons and pices. Of this duke renda the scottes

had the name and were called dalwendines as it were Rendes
 part, for in hir sprche a part is called dal, Sir. p. the pices might
 haue no Wyces of Britons, but they toke hem Wyces of Jassh Scot
 tes and promysed hem fair for to duelle With hem, and graunted
 hem a londe by the see syde there the see is narrow, that londe is cal
 led now Galle Wape, Marianus, Jassh Scottes lounded at argayll
 that is scottyn clif for Scottes lounded there for to doo harme to the
 Britons, or for that place is next to Irlonde for to come a londe in to
 Britayne, Beda. And so the Scottes after the Britons and pices
 made the thirde peple duellyng in Britayne, R. Thenne after that
 come the saxons after prayng of the Britons, to helpe hem agens the
 Scottes and pices, And the Britons were sone put oute in to Was
 les, and saxons occupied the londe lytill and litill, and eft more
 to the scottysse see, And so saxons made the fourthe maner of men
 in the Ilande of Britayn, Beda li. v. ca. ix. For saxons and angles
 come oute of Germania, yet somme Britons that duellen nygh cal
 le hem shortly germans, R. Methelles aboute the yere of our lord
 viij. C. Egbertus kyng of Westsaxon commannded and badde all
 men to calle the men of the londe englyssmen, Alfes. Thenne after
 that the danes pursued the londe aboute a c. yere, that is for to say
 fro the forsaide Egbertes tyme, vnto seint Edwardes tyme, & ma
 de the fyfthe maner of peple in the Ilande, but they faylled after
 ward, At the last come normaues vnder duke William and subdued
 englyssmen, and yet kepte they the londe, and they made the sixte pe
 ple in the Ilande, But in the first kyng barres tyme come many
 flemynge and receyued a duellyng place for a tyme beside mayl
 wos in the West side of england, and made the seuenthe peple in the
 Ilande, Methelles by commaundement of the same kyng they were
 put thence and driuen to hauerfordes side in the West side of Wa
 les, R. And so now in Britayne danes and pices fayllen all oute
 and fyue nacions duelle therein that ben Scottes in Albania, that
 is Scotland, Britons in Cambria, that is Wales, but that flemyn
 ges duelle in that is West Wales, And Normans and englyssmen
 ben medled in all the Ilande for it is now doubt in storyes how &
 in what maner they were put away & destroyed oute of Britayne
 Now it is to declare how the pices were destroyed & faylled, Sir.
 p. ca. xvij. Britayne was somtyme occupied With saxons, & pces
 was made and stablissed With the pices, thenne the Scottes that co
 me With the pices saw that the pices were nobler of dedes and
 better men of armes though they were lasse in nombre than the

following can
 be distinguished

scottes, Thenn the scottes haupng therof enuye turned to their nature & treason that they haue ofte shewd, for in treason they passe othir men, and ben traitours as it Were by kynde, for they prayde all the pices specially the grete of hem to a feste, & wayted her tyme when the pices Were mery & had well dronke, they dr. We by narles p helde by holden benches vnder the pices and the pices vnbare & so denly fylt in ouer the hammes in to a wondrefull pitfall, Thenn the scottes fylle on the pices & shew hem & lefte none alpye And so of two peple the better betriours Were hoole destroyed, But the othir that ben the scottes which ben traitours all vnlke to the pices toke proffyte by that fals treason, for they toke all that londe & holde it yet into this tyme and calle it scotland after hir owne name, In kyng Edgarus tyme kynadius alpinus son was duke and leader of the scottes & werred in pice londe & destroyed the pices, he werred syle sithe in sayon & toke all the londe that is hit vnto the weste & the scottish see with wronge & with strengthe

Of the langages of maners and vices of the peple of that londe

Ca. xv

As it is knowen how many maner of peple ben in this londe ther ben also so many langages and tonges, Notwyles Walssh & scottes that ben not medlid with othir nacions kepe nesh yet their langage & speche, But yet the scottes that Were somtyme confederate & duellid with pices drawe somewhat aft their speche But the flēmpnges p duelle in the West side of Wales haue lefte her straunge speche & speken like to sayons, also englyshmen though they had fro the begynnyng thre maner speches, southern, northern & myddell speche in the myddell of the londe as they come of thre maner of peple of germania, Notwyles by comixtion and medling first with Danes & afterward with Normans in many thinges the contrarie langage is appaired, for some vse strange wlafling chitring, harrpung garrpung & griffpung, This appayring of the langage cometh of two thinges, ones because that children p come to scole lerne to speke first englysh, & than ben compellid to confere her lessons in frenssh & that haue ben used syn the normans come in to england, Also gentilmenes children ben lerned & taught fro their yongth to speke frenssh, & by londish me wyll counterfete & likene hem selfe to gentilmen, & arn besy to speke frenssh for to be more sette by, wherfor it is said by a comyn preerle, Jack wold be a gētilmā if he coude speke frenssh, &c. This was moche used to for p

grete deeth, but sith it is somewhat chaunged, for sir Johan Coorne
 Wayll a maister of gramer chaunged the techyng of gramer scoles
 & construction of frenssh in to englyssh And othir scolemaisters use
 the same way now in the yere of our lord. M. CCC. lxxxv. the ix.
 yere of kyng Richard the seconde, & knewe all frenssh in scoles & use
 alle construction in englyssh, whereyn they haue auantage one way
 that is that they lerne the sonner their gramer And in anothir dis
 auantage, for now they lerne no frenssh ne can none, which is
 hurte for them that shall passe the see, And also gentylmen haue
 moche lesse to teche their children to speke frenssh, But someth a
 grete wonder that englyssh haue so grete diuersite in their owne lan
 gage in soune and in spekyng of it, which is all in one lond,
 And the langage of normandie is comen oute of anothir lande,
 and hath one maner soune among alle them that speke it in eng
 lond, for a man of Kent, Southern Western, & northern men spe
 ken frenssh all lyke in soune & speche but they can not speke theyr
 englyssh so, Trevisa, Notthelies ther is as many diuerse maner of
 frenssh in the reame of fraunce as diuerse englyssh in the reame of
 england, Also of the forsaide tonge which is departed in thre is
 grete wonder, for men of the east With men of the West accorde bett
 in sownyng of their speche than men of the north With men of the
 south, Therefore it is that men of merch that ben of myddell En
 gland as it were partyners With the endes, vnderstande better the
 fide langages northern & southern than northern & southern vnder
 stande eyther othir, Willhel. de pon. li. iii. Alle the langages of
 the northumbres & specialy at york is so sharp schytynge frotyng
 & vnshappe, that the sothern men may vnnethe vnderstande that
 langage, I suppose the cause be that they be nygh to the aliens that
 speke strangely, And also by cause that the kyngis of england a
 byde and duelle more in the south contrey than in the north contrey
 The cause why they abyde more in the south contrey than in þ north
 contrey, is by cause that ther is better corn lond more peple, moo no
 ble Cyties, & moo prouffitable hauenes in the south contrey than
 in the north.

De gentis huius moribus. Cir. in itinere

And the maners and the doyng of Walsshmen and of scot
 as ben to fore somewhat declared, Now I purpose to tel
 and declare the maners and condicions of the med
 lynd peple of Englonde, But the flemmynges that ben in the
 West syde of Wales ben now all turned as they were Englysshmen

because they companye With englysshmen. And they be myghty &
strong to fighte, and ben the most enemyes that Walysshmen haue &
Use marchandise and clothynge and ben full redy to put hem self
to auentures and to perill in the see and londe because of grete Wynn
nyng, and ben redy sommetyme to goo to the pld and somtyme
to dedes of armes when tyme and place comyth. It semeth of these
men a grete Wondre that in a boon of a Wethers right sholder when
the fall is soen away and not wosted they knowe what haue be
don, is don, & shall be don, as it were by a spirite of prophete and
a Wonde full craft. They telle what is don in ferre contrees, tokes
nes of pees or of werre, the state of the royaume, slepyng of men and
spousebreche suche thinges they declare certaimly of tokences and
signe that is in such a sholder boon. R. But the englysshmen that
duelle in englond ben medled in the londe and ben ferre fro the
places that they spronge of first, turnen to contrarie dedes lightly
Without enasing of ony other men by her owne assente. And so
Bresy also full of pacientie of pees, enemye of besines and full of
shoutie. Wilhelmus de po. li. iii. seyth that when they haue destroi
ed her enemyes all to grounde, thanne they fighten With hem selfe
and sleeth eche othir, as a boyde and an empty stomack Wircheth
in hit selfe. R. Notheles men of the south ben chier and more myl
de than men of the north. For they be more Instable more cruel
and more Bresy. The myddell men ben sommedele parteners to th
bothe. Also they Use hem to glotonye more than othir men and ben
more costly in mete and clothynge. Me suruyseth that they take
that B. of kynge Hardeknut that was a Dane. For he sette sitte
forth tyme double messe at diner & at soper also. These men ben spe
defull an hors & a fote. Able & redy to alle maner dedes of armes
and ben Wont to haue Victorie and maistrie in euery fight wher
e no treason is wal kynge and ben curious and can wel telle de
des and Wondres that they haue seyne. Also they gone in diuer
se londes vnnethe ben ony men richer in her owne londe or more
gracious in ferre and in strange londe. they can better Wyne and
gette newe than kepe her owne heritage. Therefore it is that they
be spradd so wyde and wene that euery londe is theyr owne
The men be able to all maner strenght and wytt, but to fore the
dede blunderynge and hasty. And more wyse after the dede than to
fore, and leuen of lightly what they haue begonne. Polinus. li.
vi. Therfor Eugenius the pope saide that Englysshmen were able
to do what euer they wolde, and to be sette and put to fore all othir

ne Were that lyght Wythe lētich, And as hanybal seyd that the
Romayns myght not be ouercome, but in hir owne cōtre, so En-
glishmen mōd not be ouercome in strange londres, but in hir owne
contrey they be lightly ouercome. R. These men despisen her owne,
and prayse othir mennys, And bennethe ben plesed ner apayd
With their owne astate, What befallēth and becometh othir men,
they Wyll gladly take to hem selfe, Therefore it is that a yeman a-
rappeth hym as a squyer, a squyer as a knyght, a knyght as a du-
ke, a duke as a kyng, Yet somme goo aboute and Wyll be like to
all maner state, and ben in no state For they take euery degre that
be of no degre, for in bring outeward they ben mynstrals and be-
wodes, In talkyng grete speakers, In etyng and drynkynge
glotons, In gaderyng of carl hucksters and tauerners, In a-
rapp tomentours, In Wynnyngeis argi, In trauayll tantali, In
talkyng hede dedali, In beddes sardanapali, In chirches mametis
In courtes thonder, only in pryuelege of clergy and in preben-
des they knowe the hem selfe clerkis, Trevisa. As touchyng the
termes of latin as argi, tantali, dedali sardanapali, ye must vn-
derstonde hem as the poetes feyned of them, Argus Was an herde
and kepte bestes, he had an hundred eyen, And Argus Was
also a ship, a shipman and a chapman, And so Argus myght
see before and behynde and on euery side, Therefore he that is Wyse
and Ware and can see that he be not decepted, may be called Ar-
gus, And so the cronycle saith in plurel nombre, that englysshmen
ben argi, that is to saye they see aboute where as Wynnynge is,
That othir Word tantali, the poetes feyneth that Tantalus slowe
his owne sone, Wherefore he is dampned to perpetuell penaunce, &
he standeth alway in Water vnto the necker lyppe, and hath al-
way ripe apples and noble fruyt hangyng doune to the ouer lyp-
pe, but the fruyt ne the Water may not come within his mouth, he
is so holde, and standeth hit were mete and drynke and may ney-
thir ete ne drynke, and is euer an hungry and a thyrst that Wo-
is hym a lyue, by this maner lyknes of Tantalus, they that doo
right nought there as moche is to doo in euery side ben called tan-
tali, It semeth that it is to saye, In trauaylle they ben tantali, for
they doo right nought therto, The thyrde Word is dedali, Take he-
de that Dedalus Was a subtil and a slye man, And therefore by
liknes they that ben subtyl and slye they be called dedali, The
fourthe Word is Sardanapali, Ye shall vnderstande that Sarda-
napalus Was kyng of Assyryens and Was full vnchaste, & vned

him to lye softe, And by a maner of likeness of him they that lye
 vnchastely ben y cleped sardanapali. R. But among alle englyssh
 medlyd to gedres is so grete chaunging & diuersite of clothynge &
 of aray & so many maners & diuerse shappes, that well nyrhe is
 ther ony man knowen by his clothynge & his aray of what someu
 degre that he be, Therof ppyced an holy Anker in kyng Egelre
 des tyme in this maner, Henri. li. vij. Englysshmen for as moche as
 they vse them to dronke & dres, to treson & to rechelesnes of goddes
 hous, first by dances & thenne by normans, & atte thirde tyme by
 scottes that they hold most wretches & lest worth of all othir they
 shall be oucome. Thenne þ world shall be so vnstable & so diuerse
 & variable that the vnstables of thoughtes shall be bitwened
 by many maner diuersities of clothynge

Of the londe of Wales

Ca. vij

In this booke taketh on hode
 Wales after englond

So take I my tales
 And wende in to Wales
 To that noble blood
 Of priamus blood
 Penelope for to wyne
 Of grete Jupiters kynne
 For to haue in mynde
 Dardanus kynde

In this foure titles I fonde
 To telle the state of that londe
 Cause of the man I shall telle
 And then prynces the lond & welles
 Then I shall write with my penne
 Alle the maners of the menne
 Thenne I shall fonde

To telle meruailles of the londe

Of the name how it is named
 Wales

Ca. vij.

Wales now is called Wallia
 And somtyme it het cambria
 For Camber brutes sone
 Was prince & there dyde wone
 Thenne Wallia was to mene

For gwalaes the quene
 Kyng Ebraucis childe
 Was wedded thider mylde
 And of that lord gwalon
 Withdreweth of the soun.
 And put to l. i. a.

And thou shalt finde Wallia
 And though this londe
 Be moche lesse than englond
 As good gleke is one as othir.
 In the doughter as in the moder
 Of the comodities of the lond
 of Wales

Ca. vij

Though that londe be lupte
 It is full of corn & of fruyte
 And hath grete plente of wyne
 Of flesch & eke of fysh.
 Of bestis tame & wyld
 Of horse & sheep open mylde
 Good londe for all seedes
 For corn & wares & herkes & spredes
 Ther ben woodes & medes
 Herkes & flours there spredes
 Ther ben riuers & welles
 Walles & also hilles

Wales bringe forth flore.
 And hill: & metals goode.
 Cool groweth Under hnde.
 And gras aboute attē hnde.
 There lyme is copious
 And slattes for hous
 Honey and mylke white
 There is deynce & not lye
 Of braket meche & ale
 Is grete pēnce in that tale
 And alle that nedeth to the lyue
 That lond bringeth forth ryue
 Out of grete riches to be drawe
 And close many in shorte saue
 Hit is a corner small
 As though god first of all
 Made that lond so fele
 To be felere of all helle
 Wales is delctd by.
 A Water that hēt t Wy
 North Wales from the south
 T Wy delict in places full couth
 The south hēt demecia.
 And the othir benedocia.
 The first shōteth & arrowes beres
 that othir delct all with speres
 In Wales how it be
 Were somtyme courtes thre
 At carmarthyn Was that one
 And that othir Was in mone.
 The thirde Was in po Wisp.
 In peng Wern y now is shrouf
 There Were bisschops seven
 And now ben iij. euen. bury
 Under sayons all attē hnde
 Somtyme Under pncas of y lād
Of the maner & rides of the
 Walsshmen ——— Ca. xij.
 The maner lypung of y hnde
 Is Well diuerse from englond

In mete & drynke & clothyng
 And many othir doyng.
 They be clothed Wondre Well.
 In a shirt and in a mantell
 A crisp breche Well faryn.
 Both in Wynde & in wyne
 In this clothyng they be holde
 Though the Weter be right colde
 Without shetes al Way.
 Euermore in this aray.
 They goo fighte pēnce & lye.
 Stonde sitte lye & slepe all
 Without surcot gown cote & kirt
 Without iope tward chok or bell
 Without lace & chaplet y her lap
 Without hode hatte or capes
 Thus amid gon y legges pes
 And al Way With bare legges.
 They kepe none othir goyng
 Though they mete With y kyng
 With arrowes & short speres.
 They fight With them y hē deres
 They fight better yf they neder.
 Whan they go thā Whā they ride
 In stede of castell & tour.
 They take Wode & mareys for so
 Whan they seen it is to do cour
 In fighting they Woll be a go.
 Gildas seyth they ben variable
 In pes and not stable.
 Yf men aye Why it be
 It is no Wonder for the see
 Though men put oute of hnde
 To put out othir Wold fonde.
 Out all for nouzt at this stode
 For al many Wodes hē at gride
 And Upon the see amonge.
 Ben castels buyled stronge
 The man may dure longe, In etc
 And hūe Well conume mete

They can eate & ben mury
Withoute greet cury
They eate brede cold & hoot.
Of barley & of ote.
Brode cakes rounde & thynne
As well semeth so greet kynne.
Selde they eate brede of wheat
And selde they done ones eate.
They haue gruel to potage.
And likes kynde to companage
Also butter mylke & cheese.
V shape ending & corner wese
Suche messes they eate snell
And that maketh he drink wel
Methe & ale that hath myght.
Therow they spende day & nyght
Euer the redder is the wyne.
They holde it the more fyn
Whan they drynke atte ale
They telle many a lewd tale
For whan drink is an honding
They ben full of jangling.
Atte mete and after eate
Her solace is salt & beke.
The husbond in his wyse.
Tellethe that a greet pryse.
to geue a caudron With gruel
To hem that sith on his mete.
He delith his mete atte mete
And geueth euery man his dele
And alle the ouerpluse
He kepeth to his owne vse
Therfor they haue woo
And myschaunces also
They eate hote samon alway
All though phisik say nay
Her houses ben lobe With all.
And made of yerdes small
Not as in citres nyke
But fer asonder & not to hite.

Whan all is eten at home
Then to hir nephours Wyl they
& eate what they may finde & see.
And then to some home come
The lyf is yde that they lide
In brening sleping & such dedes
Walsshmen vse With her myght
to wesse their ghestes feet a nyzt
If he wesse her feet all & somme
Then they knowe y they be wel
They lyue so esly in a route.
That selde they ben purs aboute
At her breche out & home come
They hong their money & combe
It is wondre they be so hende
And hate crak atte netter ende
And Withoute ony cow
Make their Wardrope atte dore
They haue in greet mangery
harp tabour & pip for miseracie
They bere corpes With sorow greet
and blode hude hornes of ghest
They prayse fast troian blode
For therof come all her brode
Neph kyn they Wyl be.
Though they passe an E. degre
aboute othir me they wil he dixt
& worship prestes With her myzt
As angels of heuen right
they worship seruantes of god
Oft gited Was this brode
And yerned batall all for wode
For merlaus pphie almyzt
And oft for sordelegre
Best in maners of brisone
For compaignes of sayons
Ben tored to better right
That is knowe as clere as light
they till gardins felde & dounes
And draue hem to good tounes

They ride armed as Wole god?
And goo y hosed & y shood?
And sitten faire at hir melle.
And stepe in haddes fair & fede
So they seme now in mynde
More englyssh than Walsh kinde
Yf men aye whi they now do so
More than they wont to do.
They lyuen in more pees.

Because of their riches
For their catel shold slake.
Yf they used ofte brake
Drede of losse of her good
make them now stille of mode.
All in one it is brought
Haue nothing & drede nought
The poet seith a sawe of prynces.
the fowman singeth tofore y thef
And is holder on the waye
than the horsman rich & gaye.

Of the meruailles & wodes
of Wales Ca. xv.

Ther is a pole at Brechnok.
Wherin of fish is many a flok
oft he changeth his hewe on cop
And leueth aboue a gardyn crop
Ofte tyme how it be
Shape of hous ther shall thou see
Whan y pole is fere it is woder
Of the noyse that is ther vnder
Yf the prince of the londe hote
Widdes singe Well mery note.
As meryly as they can
And singen for none othir man
Besides Carhon
Two myle fro the tun.
As a rocke Well bright of leem
Right axenst the sunne beam
Goldelyf that rocke hight
For it shyneth as god ful, bright

Such a flour in stone is nouzt
Without fruyt if it were souzt
Yf men coude by craft vndo.
y keynes of thetts & com ther to
Many benefice of kynde
Whan now hid fro manes minde
And ben vnknothe yet
For default of mannes witte
Gret tresour is hid in grounde
And aser this it shal be fonde.
By grette studye & besines
Of hem that comen aser bes.
that olde men had by grette nede.
We haue by lesy dede, Twylfa
In booke ye may rede.
that kynde faileth not at nede
Whan nomā had craft in minde
then of craft halp god & kynde
Whan no trexer was in londe.
Men had craft by goddes honde.
they that had craft so theene.
taught forth craft to othir mēne
some craft y yet come not i place
some mā shall haue by gods grace
R. An ibnd is with noyse & strif
In West Wales at Kerdyf
Fast by seuern stonde
Barry hight that ibnde.
In that hithe side in a chene.
Shall thou hee wonder done
And diuers noys also
Yf thou put thyn eere to
Noys of trees & of wynde.
Noys of metall thou shalt finde
Froting of ire & westerones thou
Heting of ouens then with fire
all this may Well be shall hee
By wades of the see
that breketh in thare.
With such noys and fare

At penbrok in a seede
Fendes doo ofte quede
And? throweth foul thyng in
And? dispiseth also synne
Neythir craft ne fendes may
Do thens that sowd away
Whan it greueth soo
To the men it todeeth woo.
At crucinar in West Wales
Is a wonder bucial
Euery man that cometh it to see
Semeth it euen as moche as he
Hool Wepyn there a nyght
Shall be broken er day light
At reynyn in north Wales
A litill Blonde there is
That is called? bardisey.
Monkes duells there alway.
Men lyue so longe in that hurst
That the oldest deyth first
Me saie þ merlin ther buried is
That hight also siluestris.
There Were merlins tWeyne.
And? prophesied beyne
One hylt ambrose & merlin
And? Was ygoten by gobelin.
In demecia at carmerthyn.
Wnder kyng fortigerin
He tolde his prophete.
Euen in snowdon
Atte hede of the Wat of concway
In the side of mount erri
Dynas embreys in walssh
Ambrose hille in englyssh.
Kyng fortigere sat on
The Wat side & Was ful of Wone
Then ambrose merlin pphesied?
to fore hym right tho Treuisa
What Witte Wold Wene
That a fend myght gete a child

Somine men Wold mene.
that he may no such Werk Weld
That fende that goth a nyght
Wymmen full ofte to gyle
Incubus is named by right
And? gyleth men othir While.
Succubus is that Wight
God? graunte vs none such hylt
Who that cometh in hir gyle.
Wonder happe shall he synke
With Wonder dede.
Bothe men and? Wymen seed?
Fendes Wold kepe
With craft & bringe an hepe
So fendes Wylde
May make Wymmen beu childe
Yet neuer in mynde
Was child of fendes kynde
For Withouten eye.
Eke myghte no such child deye
Etergyr maketh mynde.
Deth sleeth no fendes kynde
But deth shd we merlin.
Merlin Was ergo no goblin
A nothir merlin of albyn lond?
That now is named scotland?
And? he had? names tWo
Siluestris & calidonijs also
Of that Wode calidoni.
For there he tolde his prophete
And? heet siluestris as Well.
For Whan he Was in battell.
And sa We aboue a grisly kynde
And fylt anon out of his minde
And made nomore alood?
But ran anon Into the Wood?
Treuisa Siluestris is Wode
Othir Wylde of mode
Othir ellis
That atte Wode he duelles

R, Siluestris merlin
 Told the prophetic Well & fyn
 And prophesied Well sure
 Under kyng arthur
 Openly & not so close
 As merlin Ambrose.
 Ther ben hilles in sno wdone.
 That ben wonderly hye
 With hyght as grete as baye.
 As a man may goo a daye
 And yett erri on Walff.
 Sno wy hilles in englyssh
 In these hilles ther is.
 Leese ynough for al bestis of wa
 These hilles on cope beres
 Two grete fyssh weres
 Concynd in that one ponde.
 Meueth with y wynde an ybnd
 As though it dyde swymme
 And neyther to the bymme
 So y herdes haue grete woder
 And bene y the world meueth
 In that othir is perche & fyssh
 Every one eyed is
 So farreth all well.
 In albania the myllwell.
 In rufond by tangel
 Ther is a litill well.
 That floweth not alwaye
 As the see twies a daye
 But somtyme it is drege
 And somtyme full by the eye.
 Ther is in norwallia
 In mon that het anglesia
 A stone accordyng well nygh.
 As it were a mannes thye.
 How ferre euer that stone
 Be borne of ony mon
 On nyght it goth home his waye
 That he fonde by assaye

Hughe therle of shrotesburp.
 In tyme of the first hary
 For he wolde the soth fynde
 That stone to anothis he ga hie
 With grete chynes of Iren.
 And thwete all y feryn.
 y fonde at one kepe
 In to a water depe
 Yet a morow that stone.
 Was feryn erly in mon.
 A cherle helde him self ful sligh
 And fonde this stone to his thye
 His thygh was wten or day
 And the stone went a way.
 As yf men don lechery.
 Neys that stone by
 Swote cometh of that stone
 But childe cometh ther none
 Ther is a rocke right wonderly.
 The rocke of fering by contrey
 Though ther are ony man born.
 And shewe also with an horn
 Noys ther made though y abide
 Under thou shalt here none in this stee
 Ther is anothis ybnde
 Fast by mon at fonde.
 Hermytes ther ben rye
 Yf ony of hem don strye
 Alle the myse that may begete
 Come & ete all their mete.
 Therne seeth neuer that woo.
 Tyl the seafe see also
 As men in this londe
 Ben angry as in yrlonde
 So seintes of this contrey
 Ben also wreche full al weye.
 Also in this londe
 In yrlond & in scotlande
 Ben be les & seures.
 That in worshipp men haues

And ben Worshipped so thene
 Of clerkes & of ledd men
 That dreden also
 To sweren on ony of tho
 Staff er ther kelle
 As it Were the gospelle
 At basing Werke is a Welle
 That sacre hete as men telle
 hit spriggeth so sore as me may see
 What is cast in it thro Weth aye
 Therof springeth a grete stronde
 It Were ynowh for all y londe
 Seke at that place
 Haue bothe helle & grace

In the Welmes ofter than ones.
 Ben founde rede sperkild stones.
 In token of the blode rede
 That the mayde Wenefrede
 Shad at that pitte.
 Whan her throte Was kytte
 He that dyde that dede
 Hath sorow on his seede
 His children at all stoundes
 Werken as Welpes & houndes.
 For to they pray y mayde grace
 Ryght at that Welle place
 Eyther in shrodbury strete
 There that mayde rested swete

Of the discription of Scotland

Ca. xxj.

It is a comyn saw that the contre Which is now named
 Scotland is an outstretchyng of the north ptie of britayn
 & is deptyd in the south side from britayne With armes of
 the see. And in the othir side all aboute beclipped With the see, this
 londe het somtyme albania, & had that name of albanactus, that
 Was kyng brutus sone, for albanactus duelled first therein, or of
 the prouynce albania, that is a contre of Scacia & nyghe to amazo
 na, therfor scottes ben called as it Were scittes, for they come out of
 Scacia. A sterward that londe het pictauia for the pices regned
 therein a thousand yere lxx. or as somme telle a M. CCC. lxx. yere.
 And at the last het hibernia as Irlande hegher Bir. in top. For ma
 ny skyles, one skyl is for affynite & alye, that Was bitwene them
 & Iasshmen, for they toke Wyues of Irland and that is openly
 seen in her hileuc, in clothyng, in langage & in speche, in Wepen &
 in maners. A nothir skyl is for Iasshmen duelled there somtyme
 Beda li. j. Out of Irland that is the propre contrey of scottes co
 me Iasshmen With her duke that Was called Renda, And With
 loue and With strength made hem chief sees aud cities besides the
 pices in the north side, Bir. Now the londe is shortly called Scot
 land of scottes that come oute of Irland & regned therein CCC.
 y. yere Vnto the rede Williams tyme that Was Malcolme broder
 R. Many eydencis We haue of this Scotland, that it is ofte cal
 led and hegher hibernia as Irland doth, Therfore Beda libro.
 ii. ca. vii. seyth that laurence Archebissopp of dunbar Was arch
 bissopp of scottes that duelled in an londe that het hibernia & is

next to Britayne, Also Beda li. iij. ca. p. vij. seyth, Pestilence of
 mowyn hatte done hibernia, Also libro tercio ca. ij. seyth that the
 Scottes that dwellid in the south side of hibernia Also libro quar
 to ca. iij. se. th that chadde was a pongkyng and lerned the tru
 th of monkes in hibernia, Also li. iij. ca. p. ij. Egfridus kyng of
 Northumberland destroyed hibernia, Also li. iij. ca. p. v. The moste
 talle of scottes in hibernia, And in the same chapitre he clepeth hi
 berna properly named, that West Jorde is an hondred myle from
 eueriche Britayne, and departeth with the see hitwene, and called
 hibernia that contrey that now is called scotland, there he telleth
 that Adamuan Abbot of this Jorde seyled to hibernia for to
 teche Iristmen the lawfull uesterday, And atte last come agayne
 in to scotland, Psidorus ethi. li. viij. Men of this scotland ben nas
 med scottes in their owne langage, and pates also, For somme
 tyme her body was peynted in this maner, they wolde sommetyme
 me with a sharpe egged tole pake and kerue her owne bodies,
 and make thereon diuerse figures and shaptes and peynt hem
 with inke or with othir peynture or colour, and because they were
 so peynted they were called picti, that is to say peynted, Eudo
 tus, Scottes ben light of herte strange and wylde ynough, But
 by medlynge of Englyssmen they ben moche amended, they ben
 cruell vpon theyr enemyes, and hateth bondage most of ony thing
 and so do for a foule schuthe yf a man drey in his bed, And gres
 se worshipp if he drey in the felde, They ben acill of mete and moche
 fast longe, And eten selde whan the sunne is h, And eten flesch
 fiffth mylke and fruyt more than bread, And though they be fap
 re of shappe, they ben defouled and made vnsemyly ynough with
 theyr owne clothynge, They prayse fast the bagges of their owne
 foradres, And despyse othir mannes doynge, her londe is fruyte
 full ynough in pasture, gardynes and feeldes, Giraldus de p. ca.
 p. v. The princes of Scottes as the kynges of spayne bene not
 wond to ben enoynted ne crowned, In this Scotland is solemp
 ne and grete mynde of seint Andrew the apostle, For seint An
 drew had the north contries of the world scotes and pates to
 his lorde for to preche and conuerte the pepre to Cristes beleue
 And at the laste he was martyred in Achaia in grece in a cyt
 that was named Patras, And his bones were kept two hon
 derd two and seuentie yere vnto Constantinus the Emperours ty
 me, And thenne they were translated in to Constantinople and
 kept the .x. c. y. vnto Theodosius thempours tyme, Then August

kyng of pices in scotland destroyed a grette partie of britayne and
 was beset with a grette hoost of britons in a feld called merke, &
 he herd seint Andrez speke to hym in this maner, Vngus yng
 here thou me cristes apostle I pmyse the helpe & socour, when thou
 hast ouercomen thyn enemyes by my helpe thou shalt receiue the this
 de dele of thyn heritage in almesse to god almyghty & in worship
 of seint Andrez, and the signe of the crosse wente to fore his ooste
 and the thirde day he had victorie and so turned home agene, and
 deled his heritage as he was bode, And for he was vncertayne
 what cite he shold dele for seint Andrez, he fasted thre dayes, &
 his men prayd seint Andrez that he wold shewe hym what pla
 ce he wold chese, And one of the Wardens that kept the body of
 seint Andrez in Constantinople was warned in his dreame
 he shold goo in to a place whider an angele wold lede him, & so he
 come in to scotland with vii. felawes to the toppe of an hille named
 Ragmund, The same hour light of heuen shone and shined
 the kyng of pices, that was comyng with his hoost to a place cal
 led Carrauan, There anon were heled many seke men There met
 with the kyng Regulus the monke of Constantinople with the
 reliques of seint Andrez, There is founded a chirehe in worship
 of seint Andrez that is hede of alle the chirehes in the londe of pi
 ces that is Scotland, To this chirehe comen pilgrymes oute of all
 londes, There was Regulus first abbot & gadred monkes, And
 so alle the tiente lond that the kyng had assigned him, he depars
 & it in diuerse places amonge abbayes

Of the discription of Ireland. ————— Ca. xxij.

Hibernia that is Ireland, And was of olde tyme incorpe
 rate in to the lordship of Britayne so seyth Giraldus in
 sua topographia, Where he descriueth it at fulle, Yet it is
 worthy and semely to prayse that londe with larger praying, for
 to come to clere and full knowleche of that londe these titles that
 folowe opene the weye, Therefore I shall telle of the place and ste
 de of that londe how grette and what maner londe it is, Wherof
 the londe hath plente, and wherof it hath defaute, also of what men
 that dwellled therein first, Of maners of men of that londe, Of the
 wondres of that londe, and of worthynes of haboundes and seintes
 of that londe

Of the boundyng of Ireland. ————— Ca. xxiii.

Irloud is the last of all the West Ilandes & hight hibernia
 of one hiberus of spayne that was hermon:9 brother, for
 these two brethren gat & won that londe by conquest. Or
 it is callid hibernia of that auer hiberus that is in the Weste ende
 of spayne, & that londe heigh scotland also, for scottes duellid there
 somtyme er they come in to that othir scotland that longed to Bra-
 tayne. Therfore it is writen in the Martisboke. Such a way in scot-
 lond: seint Bryde was borne, & that was in Irlonde. This londe
 hath in the sou: West side spayne thre dayes saylling: thennes a side
 half, & hath in the est side the more britayne thens a dayes saylling
 in the West side it hath the endeles Ocean, and in the north side Jies
 lond thre dayes saylling thens. Solinus. But the see that is betwe-
 ne britayne & Irlonde is all the yere full of grete waues & tem-
 pest, so that many may felde saille sikely hit wens, that see is C. xx myle
 brode

Of the gretnes & qualite of that londe
 Capitulum. xxiiij.

Irlonde is an Ilande greetest after britayne, and stretcheth
 nor Ward from brendans hilles vnto the londe Columbi-
 na & conteyneth viij. dayes journeyes, euery journey of
 xl. myle, and from druelin to patrike hilles & to the see in that side
 in brede four journeyes, and Irlonde is narrower in the myddell
 than in the ends, all othir wyse than britayne is, as Irlonde is shor-
 ter north Ward than britayne, so is it longer south Ward, the londe
 is not pleyne but full of montayns of hilles of wodes of marres
 and of mores. The londe is softe rayny Wyndy & lowe by the see si-
 de & withinne hilly & sondy. Solinus. ther is grete plente of noble
 pasture & of beeste, therfor the beestes must be oft driuen out of their
 pasture lest they ete ouermoch for they shold stonde hem self if they
 myght ete at their wyll. Gwaldor men of that londe haue commune
 by their helth and strangers haue ofte a perillous flux because of
 the moisture of the mede. The flessh of theyn is thers holosome, and
 wyynes flessh vnholosome. Men of that londe haue no feuer but on-
 ly the feuer ague & that right seld. Therfor the holsonnes & helthe
 of that londe & the clenness out of benyng is worth all the cost &
 richesse of trees of herbes of spycerie, of riche clothes, & of precious
 stones of the est londes. The cause of the helthe & holsonnes of that
 londe is þ attēpaci hēte & colde that is therein. In quibz rethz sufficiat

In this londe ben mo kyne than oyer, more pasture than corne, mo
 re gras than seed. There is grete plenty of samon, of lamprays, of
 Eels and of othir see fysh. Of egles of cranes, of peowkes, of cur-
 lewres, of sperhawkes, of gosshawkes and of gentill faldrons, Of
 Wolues and right shrewd myse, Ther ben attrocoppes, blode sou-
 kers and ecetes that doon none harme, Ther ben seynes lytill of bo-
 dy and full hardy and stronge, Ther ben barnacles foibles lyke to
 wyld geese, which growen wonderly vpon trees, at it were na-
 ture wrought agayn kynde, men of religion eteth barnacles on fa-
 stingdaies because they ben not engendrid with flessch, wherein as
 me thinketh they erre, for wson is ayenst that, For yf a man had
 eten of Adams legge he had eten flessch, and yet Adam was not
 engendrid of fader and moder, But that flessch come wonderly of
 the tre and so this flessch cometh wonderly of the tre In this londe
 is plenty of hony and of mylke of Wyne and of vynygerdes,
 Solinus and Plidorus writen that yrlonde hath no bees, Nethe-
 les it were better writen that yrlonde had bees and no vynygerdes
 Also Beda seyth that ther is grete hunting to wobuckes And it
 is yknowe that there ben none, It is no wonder of Beda for he
 saw neuer that londe, but somme man had told hym such tales,
 Also ther groweth that stone Saxagonus and is called Iris also
 as it were the rayn bowe, yf that stone be holde agaynst the sonne a
 none it shall shawe a raynbowe, ther is also founden a stone that is
 called gagates and white margery perles

Of the defawtes of the londe

Ca. xxv

Where cornes ben there full small vnnethe yclensed With
 mannes hond, Reserued men, alle bestes ben smaller ther
 than in othir londes, Ther lacketh well nygh alle maner
 fyssh of fressh water that is not gendrid in the see Ther lacken v-
 kynde faucons, gerfaucons, partrychis, fesaunte, Nyghtyngales &
 pyes, Ther lacken also Roo and bucke and yle spiles, Wontes and
 othir benymous bestes, Therefore sommen seynen and that fauout-
 ably that seint patryk clenfed that londe of wormes and of beny-
 mous bestes, but it is more probable and more skylfull that this
 londe was from the begynnyng alway withoute suche wormes, for
 benymous bestes and wormes dyen ther anone yf men bringe hem
 thider oute of othir londes And also benyyme and popson brought
 thider oute of othir londes lesen theyr malice as sone as it passeth

by the way of

the myddell of the see, Also pouder and ertre of that londe caste & fallen in othir londes driven away Wormes so ferforth that yf a turf of that londe be put aboute a Worme, it sleth hym or maketh hym thrille the ertre for to scape away, In that londe cockes crowd but litill to fore day, so that the first crowyng of cockes in that londe and the thirde in othir londes ben like ferre to fore the day

Of them that first inhabited Irlonde ————— Ca. xxvj.

Grahdus seyth that Casera Noes newe drad the flode and stode With thre men and fyfty Wymmen in to that Irlonde and duelled therein first the last yere to fore Noes flode, But after Ward Bartholanus Sees sone that come of Ia: pset Noes sone come thither With his thre sones by happe or by craft, CCC. yere after Noes flode and duelled there and encreed to the nombre of ix. M. men, And after Ward for stence of ka: xps of geantes that they had kyld they dorden alle saue one Ruanus that lyued a thousand and V. C. yere vnto seint patricks tyme and enformed the holy man of the forsaide men and of all their doyngis and dedes, Thence the thirde tyme come thider Nymeth oute of scicia With his foure sones and duelled there two hundred yere and xvj. And at the last of his offspring by diuerse myshappes of Werres and of moeyne they were elene destroyed and the londe lefte voyde CC. yere after, The fourthe tyme fyue dukes that were brethren, Gandius, Genandus, Sagandus, Ruthragus, Slauus, of the forsaide Nymethis successours come oute of Grece and occupied that londe and deled it in fyue parties, And euery party conteyned xxij. candredes, A candrede is a contrey that conteyneth an hundred townes, And they sette a stone in the myddell of the londe as it were in the nauell and beginnyng of fyue kyngdomes, At the last Slauus was made kyng of all the londe, The fyfthe tyme whā this nacion was xxx. yere to gedyr they were feble Four noble men that were Millesius the kyngs sones come oute of spayne With many othir in a nauere of ly. shippes, And two of the worthiest of these foure brethren that were Hiberus and Hermon deled the londe bitwene hem tweyne, But after Ward couenaunt was broken bitwene hem to the and Hiberus was slaue, Thence Hermon was kyng of all that londe, And from his tyme to the first patricks tyme were kynges of that nacion C. xxxj. And so fro the comyng of the hyperboreis vnto the first patrick were a M.

year & viij. C. They had that name hibernentes and hibernia of the
forſaid hiberus or els of hiberus a ruler of ſpayne, they were cal
led; alſo Gaptels and ſcottes, of one gaptelus that was phenius
newe, This gaptelus coude ſpeke many langages, after the lan
gages that were made at nempoths tour, and; wedded; one ſcot
ta pharoes daughter, Of theſe dukes come the hibernensis, Men
ſaie that this gaptelus made the Iriffh langage and; called; it
gaptelaſ as it were a langage gadred; of all langages and; ton
ges, At the laſt Belinus kyng; of Britayne had; a ſone hiber gur
guncius, As this Burguncius come oute of denmarke att; Jlon
des Orades, he founde men that were called; baſclensis and; were
come thider oute of ſpayne, theſe men prayde and; beſought; for to
haue place to dwell; inne, And; the kyng; ſente hem to Irlande
that was the hope and; waſte, and; ordeyned; and; ſente with hem
dukes and; capitaynes of his owne, And; ſo it ſemeth that Ir
lande ſhold; longe to Britayne by right of olde tyme, From the
firſt ſeynt patrick vnto Gedmundus the kynges tyme CCC. x.
re, reigned; xxviij. kynges euerich after othir in Irlande, In this
Gedmundus tyme Turgeſius duke and; captayne of Norweye
brought thider men of Norweye and; occupied that lande and; made
in many places depe ditches & caſtels ſengle double and; treble and
many wardes ſtrongly walled; and; many therof ſtonde yet alle
hole, but Iriffhmen were not of caſtels, for they take woodes for
caſtels and; mureys and; mores for caſtell ditches, But att; laſte
Turgeſius deyde by gylefull wyks of women, and; Engliſhmen
ſeyne that Gurmundus wan Irlande & made thilke ditches, and;
make no mencion of Turgeſias, and; Iriffhmen ſpeke of turgeſi
and; knowe not of Gurmundus Therfor it is to wete that gurmū
dus had; wonne Britayne & duellid therein, and; ſente Turgeſius
with grete ſtrength in to Irlande for to wyne that lande, and; by
cauſe Turgeſius was captayne & leder of that viage & journey
and; ſeen amonge them Therfor Iriffhmen ſpeke moche of hym as
a noble man that was ſeen in that lande and; knowen, At the laſte
whan Gurmundus was ſlayne in fraunce, Turgeſius lued the
kynges daughter of met; in Irlande, & her fader behiſte Turgeſi
that he wold ſende her him to the lorde larkrin with v. maydens
And; Turgeſius promyſed; to mete there with v. of the nobleſte
men that he had; and; helde couenaunt and; thought no gyle, but
ther come v. yong herdes men clothed; like wyminen with ſhort
werdes vnder her clothes, & ſlue on Turgeſius & ſlode him right

27
there and so he Was traitourly slayne after he had regned 22. y.
yere, Not longe after thre brethern Amelanus Siracus & Juorua
come in to Ireland With hir men oute of Norwey as it had ben for
loue of pees and of marchandise and duellid by the see sides by
assente of Irisshmen, that Were alway ydell as poules knyghtes,
And the Norwages bileded thre cities, Deuelin Waterford and
Limerich and encreased and after Were rebell ayenst men of that
londe and brought first sparthes in to Ireland, So fro Turgesis
tyme vnto Rotheriks tyme kyng of Connacia that Was the last
that Was kyng of all the londe Were 22. kynges in Ireland And
so the kynges that regned in Ireland from the first hermons tyme
vnto the laste Rotheriks tyme Were in all an C. lxxvi. kynges &
Were not crowned neithir enoynted ne by lawe of heritage, but by
myght maistrise and by strength of armes The seconde harry kyng
of england made this Rotherik subgette the yere of kyng harrys
age fourty and of his regne 22. the yere our lord 22. C. lxxvi.

Of the condicions and maners of Irisshmen — Ca. xxvii.

Solanus seyth that men of this londe ben strange of nacion
houseles and grete fighters, and accounte right & wrong
all for one thyng, and ben singler of clothynge, scarce of
mete cruel of herte, angri of speche and drinketh first blode of dede
men that ben slayne, and thanne Wesshen their visages therewith
and holde hem payd With flessh & fruyt in steede of mete and With
mylke in steede of drynke, And Wlen moche pleyeng Idleness and
hunting and trauayle but litell In their childhode they ben hard
norissched and hard fed, and they be vnsemely of maners and
of clothynge and haue breche and hosen allone of Wolle & strayne
hodes that stretcheth a cubite ouer the sholdres besynde and foldin
g: in steede of mantels & of clokes, Also they vse no saddles, bootes
ne spores Whan they ryde, but they driue their horses With a
chambred yerd in the ouer ende, In steede of bittes With trenches
& of badles of rest, they vse bridles that lette not their horse to ete
their mete, They fight vnarmed naked in body, netheles With ii.
dartes & speeres, & With brode sparthes they fight With one hande,
These men forsake tplyeng of londe and kepen pasture for bestes,
they vse longe herdes & longe lokes hangyng doune behinde her be
des, They vse no crafte of flaye, of Wolle, of metall, ne of marchā
dyse, but geue hem to Idleness & to slouth, & vnto waste for liking

and? freedom for riches. And? though Scotland the daughter of Je
honde the harpe tymbre & tabour. Notthes Jassmen be connyng
in two maner instrumentis of musike in harpe & tymbre that is
armed? With Wyre & strenges of brasse. In which instrumentis
though they playe hastily & swyftly they make right mery armo
nye & melodye With thicke & wyde Werbles & notes, & begynne fro
hemol & playen secretly Under dyme soune in the grete strenges, &
borne ayne vnto the same, so that the gretest pte of the craft hye
deth the craft, as it wolde seme as though the craft so hidde shoulde
be ashamed? if it were take. These men be of euill maners in her
lyuynge, they paye no tithinges they wedde lawfully, they spare
not their alyes, but the brother wedded the brothers Wyf, they ben
hesy for to betraye her neyghbours & other, they ben spartres in their
bondes in stede of staues & fighte ayenst them, that truste moste to
them, These men ben variable and vntedfast trechours & gylefull
Who that delecth With them, nedeth more to beware of gyle, than of
craft of pces than of brennyng brondes, of hony than of galle, of
malice than of knyghthode, they haue such maners that they ben
not stronge in werre & in batall ne trewe in pces, they become gos
sibes to them, that they well falsely betraye in the gossibode and?
holp kynrede. Euenich drinketh others blode when it is shed? They
loue somdele her noyce & her pleyfers which is at foule the same
mylke that they souked? While they were children. And they pour
slewe their brethren their cosins, and? their other kyn. And despise
their kyn whiche they lyue, and auenge their deth when they
ben slayne. So longe hath the blage of euill custome endured? a
mong them, that it hath gotten the masteie ouer them & cometh tres
son in to kynde so ferforth that they ben traitours by nature. And?
aliens and? men of straunge bondes that dwell amonge them so
lowen their maners that vnnethe ther is none but he is bismpted?
With their treson also. Amonge them many men pissen sitting and
wymmen standyng. Ther ben many men in that londe foul shapen
in lymmes and? in body. For in their lymmes they lack the line &
fix of kynde So that nowher ben none better shapen than they that
ben there well shapen, and? none worse shapen than they that bene
euill shapen. And? skylfully nature hurte & defoulde? by wyked
nes of lyuynge bringeth forth suche foule gromes & euill shapen
of hem that With vnlawfull delynge With foule maners & euill
lyuynge so wyckedly defoulde? kynde & nature In this londe & in
Wales old? Wyues & Wymmen were wonte & ben yet as men seyne

ofte for to shapen them selfe in likenes of hares for to mylke their
 neyghbours kyne and seke her mylke, And ofte grehoundes ren
 nen after them and poursewe them and Wemen that they be hares
 Also some by craft of Nymgromancie maken fatte Wyne for to be
 redde of colour and seke them in markettis & in feyres, But assone
 as these Wyne passe ony Water they turne in to their owne kynde
 Whether it be strawe hys gras or turves, But these Wyne may not
 be kept by no craft for tendure in likenes of Wyne ouer thre dayes
 Amonge these Wondres & othir take hede that in the bittermost en
 de of the Worlde falleth ofte new meruailles and Wondres, As
 though kynde pseyde With larger due secretly & fer in thendes, &
 openly & neygh the myddell, therfore in this Ilande ben many grete
 Wondres and meruailles

Of the meruailles & Wondres of Irlonde — Ca. xxviii.

Any man telleth that in the northside of Irlonde is the I
 de of lyp, In that Ilande noman may dye, but Whā they
 ben olde and ben tryed With grete sekencesse, they ben for
 oue in to the next Ilande and dye there, Ther is another Ilande in
 Irlonde that no Woman therein may bere a childe, but yet she may
 concyue, Also ther is an Ilande in which no dede body may rotn
 In Blawia that is Blyster is an Ilande in a lake Wonderly depar
 ted in tWeyne, In that one partie is grete disturbaunce & discom
 fort of fendes, and in that othir partie grete likyng and comfort
 of holy angels, There is also seynt patricks purgatorie that was
 the Wedd at his prayers to con ferme his prechynge & his lye Whā
 he preched to myshelued me of sorowe & payne that euyl men shol
 de suffer for her wicked Wylkes, And of Joye and of blisse that
 good men shall resseyue for her holy dedes, he telleth that Who that
 suffreth y paynes of y purgatorie, yf it be enioyned hym for penaū
 ce, he shall neuer suffer the paynes of helle, but he dye finally With
 oute repetaunce of sinne, as the ensample is sette more fulle, at this
 chapitres ende, Trevisa, But truly noman may be saued, but if he
 be truly repentaunt What somauer penaunce he doo, and every man
 that is truly repentaunt at his lyues ende, shall be alkerly saned,
 though he neuer here of seynt patricks purgatorie, Ther is an Ilande
 in Connacte Salo, that is in the see of Conaccia, half Wrd by seynt
 Brendan, that hath no myse, there dede bodies ben not buried, but
 ben kept oute of thetthe & rotn not, In mamonia is a Wells, Who

that Wasseth him With that Water of that Welle, he shall Wepe
on his hede, Ther is anothir Welle in Blawia, Who somer is
Wesshen therein he shall neuer Wepe how afterward, Ther is a Welle
in Mounstew or Momonia, yf ony man touche that Welle anone
shall falle grete rayne in all the prouynce, & that rayne shall neuer
cesse till a prest that is a clene mayde singe a masse in a chapell
fast by & blesse the Water, And With mylke of a cowe that is of
one heer besprynge the Welle, & so reconyke the Welle in this stran-
ge maner At Gandalkan aboute the oratorie of seint Keywyn With
grete berith apples as it Were apple trees, and ben more holysome thā
saucy, That holy seint brought forth these apples by prayers for
to hele his childe that Was seck, Ther is a lake in Belster and mo-
che fiffh therein, Which is xxx. myle in lengthe and fiftan in brede
The Riuer Ban renneth oute of that lake in to the north Ocean,
And men saye that this lake began in this maner, There Were
men in that contrey that Were of euill luyng, countes cum bru-
tis, And there Was a Welle in that londe in grete reuerence of olde
tyme, and alwaye couerd, and yf it Were lefte Incouerd the Welle
Wold rise and drowne all the londe, And so it happed that a Wo-
man Wente to that Welle for to fetch Water and hised her faste to
her childe that Weped in the cradle, and lefte the Welle Incouerd,
then the Welle sprang so fast that it drowned the Woman and her
childe and made all the contrey a lake and a fiffhonde, For to pre-
ue that this is soth it is a grete argument, that When the Weder is
clere, fiffhers of that Water see in the groude Under the Water roun-
de touris and hile shapen as steeples and chirches of that londe In
the northside of Irland in the contrey of ossiriens, euery vij. yere at
the prayer of an holy Abbot, & Weyne that ben Wedded a man and
a Woman most nedes ben exiled, & forshapen in to likenes of Wol-
ues and abyde oute vij. yere, And atte ende of vij. yere if they ly-
ue they come home agayn and take agayn their owne shappe, and
thanne shall othir Weyne goo forth in their stede, and so forshapen
for othir vij. yere, There is a lake in this londe if a poole of tre be
pyght and styked therein that parte of the shaft or poole that is in
therthe shall torne in to Iren, And that parte that abyde in the
Water, shall torne in to stone, And the parte that abyde aboue
shall be tre in his owne kynde, Also ther is a lake that turneth ba-
sell in to asshe and asshe in to hasell, if it be don therein, Also in Ir-
lande ben thre samon wepes, there as samons wepe agynst a roche a
longe spere length Also in Iagenia is a ponde ther be see colmans

birde, the byrdes ben cleped? articles and? come homely to mannes
honde, but yf men doo hem wronge or harme, they gone away and
come not agayne, and? the Water ther shall be bitter and styng
ke, And? he that dyde the wronge shall not a sterre withoute we
che and? meschief but yf he doo amendes. R, As touchinge patrikes
purgatorie, ye shall vnderstande that the second? seint Patrick that
was Abbot and not bisschop while he prechid in Irlonde laboured
and? studyed? for to turne thilke wicked men that lyued as bestes
out of her euill lyp for drede of paynes of helles, and for to cōferme
hem in good lyp, and they seyde they wold not turne but somme of
them myght knowe somwhat of the grete paynes, and also of hal
se that he spake of, Thenne seint Patrick prayed to god? almightie
therfore, and? our lord? Ihesus crist appiered? to seint Patrick, and
he hym a stafe and? ladde him in to a wyldre place and? shewd him
there a wound? pitte that was deke within & saide, that yf a man
were veri repentaunt and? stable of bylue and? wente in to this
pitte, and? walked? therein a day and? a nyght, he shold? see the so
rowes and? the paynes of euill men, and? the joye and? blysse of
good? men, Thenne crist danysshed? oute of patrikes sight, and seint
Patrick arowed? and? bylded? there a churche and? put therein Cha
nons regular & closed the pitte aboute with a walke, & is now in
the church yerd at the east ende of the church, & fast shutte with a stron
ge dore, For noman shold? nyghtly goo in withoute leue of the bis
shop, or of the priour of the place, Many men wente in and come
oute agayn in patrikes tyme and? tolde of paynes & joye that they
had? seen, and? the meruailles that they sawe ben there yet wroton
And? because therof many men turned? & were conuered? to right
bylue, Also many men wente in and? come neuer agen, In kyngs
Stephens tyme kyng of Englonde? a knyght that hight? Owayne
wente in to seint patrikes purgatorie and come agayn and duelled
euer after during his lyp in the nede of thabbay of ludensis that
is of thordre of Cisteys and? tolde many wondres that he had se
in patrikes purgatorie, The place is called? Patrikes purgatorie
and? the churche is named? reglis, Noman is enioyned? for to goo
in to that purgatorie, but counceilled? that he shold? not come thers
in but take vpon him othir penaunce, And? yf a man haue auo
wed? and? be stable and? wole nede goo therein, he shall first goo to
the bisschop & then he shall be sente with lres to the priour of the pla
ce & they bothe shall counceill him to leue, & if he will nede go therto
he shall be in prayers & in fasting yb. dayes, and after yb. dayes he

shall be houseld & led to the dore of the purgatorie With procession
and letanie, and yet he shall be counailled to leue it, and yf he be
stedfast and wyll entre, the dore shall be opend and he y blessed &
goo in on goddis name, and holde forth his Waye, and the dore
shall be fast shette tyll the next day, and when the tyme is the pri-
our shall come & opene the dore, and yf the man be comen he ledeth
hym in to the church With procession, and there he shall be y .v. dayes
in prayers and fastyng

Of the meruailles of seyntes of Irelande ————— Ca. xxix.

Here Giraldus maketh mynde that as mē of this nacion
ben more angri than othir men & more hasty for to take
wreche whyles they ben a lyue, so seyntes and halowys of
this londe ben more wrechefull than seyntes of othir londes, Cler-
kes of this londe ben chaſte & sayen many prayers & done grete ab-
ſtinence a daye, and drynke all nyght, so that is accounted for a
myracle, that becheres regneth not there as wyne regneth, and they
that ben cupell of them ben worst of all othir, So good men among
them though they be but fewe, ben good at the best, Prelates of that
contrey ben but slowe in correction of trespass, and lesy in contem-
placion and not in prechyng of goddis worde, Therefore it is that
alle the seyntes of that londe ben confessours and no martir among
them, and no wonder, for all the prelates of this londe ben chosen
oute of abbeys in to the clergie, and done as monkes sholde, What
clerkys and prelates shuld do is to them vnknowen, therfor when
it was put aynst the bisschop of Cassell how it myght be that so
many seyntes ben in Irelande and neuer a martir among hem all
sith that the men ben so shrewd and so angri, and the prelates so
recheles and slowe in corrections of trespass, The bisschop answered
frowardly pnowh and sayde, oure men ben shrewd & angri ynough
to hem selfe, but to goddes seruantes they be neuer honde but do
to hem grete reuerence and worship, But englysshmen come in to
this londe that kan make martres, and were wonge to be that cra-
fte, R. The bisschop said so bicause that kynge harry the seconde was
tho new comen in to Irelande freshly after the martirdome of seint
Thomas of Caunterbury. Sir. in this londe in wales and in scot-
lande ben helles and stauces with croked bedes & othir such thyn-
ges for reliques in grete reuerence & worship, so that men of this
londe dreden more for to sweve vpon any of thilke helles and gold

30

staues than vpon the go spell, The chief of alle suche reliques is y
holde this staf that is at deuelin, With the Whiche staf they saye y
the first seint patrick drofe the Wormes out of Irelande, Aug⁹. de. a.
dei ca. viij. If men aye hold it may be that diuerse maner beestes &
of diuerse kynde that ben kindly gotten hit bene male & female co
me & ben in Ilandes after Noes flood, Men supposen that suche bees
tees swame in to Ilandes aboute. and first to the next & so forth in
to othir, Or els men seyll yng in to Ilandes brought With hem such
beestes for loue of hunting, or angels at god almyghties commaū
dement brouzt suche beestes in to Ilandes aboute, or the erthe brouzt
hem forth first & fulfilled the goddes commaundement, that com
maunded the erthe to bringe forth gras & quicke beestes.

Here endeth the discription of Britayne the, Whiche conteineth en
gland, Wales and Scotland, & also bicause Irelande is vnder the reu
le of england, & of olde tyme it hath so continued therfore I haue
sette the description of the same after the said Britayne, Which I ha
ue taken oute of Polixonicon, And bicause it is necessarie to alle
englistmen to knowe the proprieties comodities & miruailles of
them therfore I haue sette them in enprinte according to the trans
lacion of Trevisa, Whiche atte request of the lord Berkeley trans
latid the booke of Polixonicon in to englisth, Imprimid by me
William Caxton the xviij. day of August the yere of our lord god
m. CCC. lxxx. and the xx. yere of the regne of kyng Edward
the fourth.